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VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19391 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1996 TISHREI 18, 5757 19 JAMAD 1, 1417 NIS 4.50 (Eilat NIS 3.80)

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Mordechai: A formula for dialogue will be found

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

DEFENSE Minister Yitzhak Mordechai jolted his heavy frame onto the ground and shimmed up behind sandbags for a view of Tulkarm from the outpost where two Border Police officers, members of the joint patrols, were killed by snipers last week. Gazing eastward from the bullet-riddled position, he was met with the calm and quiet that has swept the territories since the weekend.

Surrounded by senior officers, Mordechai said that all is not lost, and that a formula can still be found for dialogue with the Palestinians. But he warned that the full might of the IDF is at hand should violence erupt again.

"There are forces deployed for every eventuality, which is something we don't want. We want to stabilize the situation and for the violence to be eliminated, but together with this, wherever violence erupts there are forces and tools and orders to react quickly and do what is necessary," Mordechai said.

He said that in consultations held yesterday morning with top IDF and security officials two main points came out, one reportedly calling for "picking up all the pieces" and recreating the confidence between Israeli and Palestinian forces. The other reportedly warned that should violence erupt again, it would be accompanied by clashes along the borders.

"Not everything has collapsed. It's a fact that a grave thing happened when Palestinian policemen opened fire on our soldiers," Mordechai said. "But some of the [cooperation] frameworks still exist, and existed during the incidents and reduced the violence."

"We want to reduce the conflict and aggression. I want to reduce the tension in the Middle East. I don't want a situation where we are fighting with all our might where we don't want to ... We, and most certainly I, don't want to bring about an escalation."

Mordechai arrived at the Tulkarm Border Police base from Nablus, where he was briefed on the bloody battle at Joseph's Tomb in which six soldiers were killed. Palestinian policemen are still occupying parts of the compound around the tomb, and the IDF has asked the Palestinian Authority to withdraw its forces.

Mordechai revealed that he found out about the opening of the Hasmonean Tunnel only five minutes before hand, and immediately notified IDF commanders.

Soldier dies of wounds from Thursday's rioting

St.-Sgt. Visam Amar, 20, of the Druse village Peki'in, died last night at Beersheba's Soroka Hospital of wounds he received on Thursday during a clash with Palestinians at Netzarim in Gaza. He is the 15th soldier to have died as a result of last week's armed clashes.

His funeral will be today at 2 at the Peki'in cemetery. (tim)



Some of the thousands of demonstrators against Hebron redeployment rally at the Machpela Cave yesterday. See story below. (AP)

Mubarak absent as Washington summit begins today

DESPITE Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's rebuff yesterday of President Bill Clinton's personal plea, the two-day White House summit, called to resuscitate the peace process following last week's clashes, will begin today without him.

As a result, Egypt, which Washington has always viewed as a bedrock of Middle East peace efforts, may be shut out of a role in the event entirely.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns told reporters that Foreign Minister Amr Moussa would replace Mubarak, but following Burns' daily briefing, Moussa called Secretary of State Warren Christopher from New York

(where he is attending the opening session at the UN General Assembly) to state "he would not be a direct participant in the talks."

An Egyptian Embassy official stated that Moussa and the American peace team were still discussing "a formula that would allow the foreign minister to participate" late yesterday.

He termed the situation a matter of "protocol and substance," since, unlike Clinton, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, and Jordan's King Hussein, Moussa is not a head of government.

US officials would not explain why Mubarak refused to attend.

White House spokesman Mike McCurry said that Clinton called Mubarak yesterday morning and "strongly encouraged" him to attend and had "hoped that he would come."

"But we also understand that there are other ways that he has been a significant participant in this process," McCurry said.

Christopher said it "would have been good if President Mubarak had been able to come," but Washington appreciated Moussa's coming. Egypt would continue to play a major role in the peace process, he said.

(Continued on Page 4)

Right wing flocks to Hebron rally

HERB KEINON

THOUSANDS of Jews sang and danced in the shadows of the Machpela Cave in Hebron yesterday, giving their defiant answer to what is likely to be massive pressure on Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to quickly redeploy from Hebron.

"Hebron is ours because of our fathers Avraham, Yitzhak, and Ya'acov," Hassidic pop star Mordechai Ben-David sang to a pulsating beat. The crowd sang back with feeling.

As he sang, IDF soldiers, one behind a machine gun, stood guard atop the roof of the tomb. Ben-David's music, including a lively rendition of his hit song "Moshiach, Moshiach," reverberated off the tomb and echoed through the streets, empty of Palestinians because of a curfew.

"From this holy site, we want to send our best wishes to the prime minister to stand solid as a rock against the pressure of the Gentiles," Kiryat Arba Chief Rabbi Dov Leor told the crowd.

"Today, it is clear that arming Palestinian soldiers in Hebron would be an act of murder," Hebron settlement leader Noam Arnon said in an interview. "The government must not allow this, despite pressures from antisemites in Europe, the Arab world, and in the US administration."

Organizers of the rally - planned well before the recent violence in the territories, but heavily colored by the events - said that some 250 buses from around the country brought people to the cave. Many of the buses were not allowed into Hebron and let their passengers off at Kiryat Arba.

The people then walked the 15 minutes to the cave, watched carefully by the numerous soldiers posted along the route, and

Palestinians, who looked out from windows and rooftops.

Peace Now issued a statement condemning the rally, saying that holding it in Hebron now is tantamount to pouring "oil on the fire that was ignited with the opening of the Hasmonean Tunnel."

Peace Now spokesman Alon Arnon said the organization did not understand how a rally like this could be authorized while the city's Palestinians were under curfew.

"I came here to express solidarity at this time," Mordechai Muschel, of Kiryat Sefer said. "This place belongs to us. It would be suicidal to give it away."

Beit El yeshiva student Yigal Lewis said he came to strengthen the settlement, to show that Jews will be willing to struggle to keep Hebron under Israeli control. As to whether he had any fears about coming to the city, Lewis said: "I have a sister in Kfar Darom and a cousin in Netzarim. I feel right at home here."

As it turned out, the only security problem was trying to get on the buses at the Jerusalem International Convention Center. Hundreds of people pushed and shoved furiously to gain seats on them, nearly crushing one another.

At the rally, MK Benny Elon (Moledet) denounced in the harshest terms what he called the "shame" of Joseph's Tomb, where six soldiers were killed on Thursday after being attacked by armed Palestinians.

"We need to wake up and ensure that the murderers are not allowed to stand on the hills here," he said, calling on Netanyahu not to agree to allow armed Palestinian forces in Hebron.

While saying that he supports Netanyahu, Elon criticized him for

(Continued on Page 4)

PM pledges continuous talks with Palestinians

DAVID MAKOVSKY
en route to Washington

ON the eve of today's summit, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu pledged to hold "continuous talks" on Hebron and other related issues until an agreement is reached.

Moreover, he said both he and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat would closely monitor the progress of the talks to maintain their momentum.

Speaking to reporters on his plane en route to Washington, Netanyahu outlined his goals: "What I'd like to see is two things, first a cessation of violence, and second a speedy resumption of negotiations and their conclusion. Therefore, I am proposing that the two sides meet right after the meeting in Washington, in a locale to be determined, to engage in continuing negotiations until an agreement is reached."

While he refused to set a deadline for when talks would be completed, he did say, "It is desirable that both Arafat and I will back the delegations and will be involved in such a way that decisions can be reached without unnecessary delay."

He added that the talks would continue until Israel's security concerns for Hebron are met.

"The subjects that should be negotiated," he said, "include Hebron, the question of the closure and questions of security, including the airport in Dahiyeh [Gaza]. Once agreement is reached on these issues, implementation can be immediate."

He said the Hasmonean Tunnel would not be on the agenda in Washington. He seemed to dismiss the issue of Israel making gestures to the Palestinians during the talks, saying he wouldn't mind them making gestures to Israel.

Sources close to Netanyahu said they foresee the possibility of him committing himself to regular consultations with Arafat.

A top Netanyahu aide said that Israel would be seeking a reaffirmation that violence could not be used by any side as a lever to attain political results. There were reports last night that language to this effect was already being drafted for a joint statement to be released after the two-day summit.

Netanyahu was emphatic that "we're meeting here in order to prevent such violations and reach an agreement on the continuation of the process. If there won't be such an understanding and if the violations continue time and time again, clearly the conclusion will be that the process can not continue on this basis."

He said he hopes his meeting with Arafat will lead to a rebuilding of trust between Israelis and Palestinians.

He blasted opposition groups for "irresponsibility" in backing the Palestinian version of why the violence began, since this could only

(Continued on Page 4)

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Levy says PA Police was behind unrest

Asserts Hebron Jews would have faced pogrom if Palestinian Police had been deployed there

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

THE Jewish community in Hebron would have faced a "pogrom" had the Palestinian Police been deployed there during last week's disturbances, Foreign Minister David Levy said yesterday, but he rejected the suggestion of disarming the police.

"We have solid proof that the Palestinian Police were in fact behind the unrest," Levy told reporters in New York. "In those places where there were no Palestinian Police, there was no unrest, no victims."

"Just imagine what would have been the fate of the Jewish minority in Hebron if Palestinian armed policemen were on the spot. Having seen what happened next to Joseph's Tomb, when Israelis and Jews were surrounded by the Palestinian Police, I can only deduce that had that situation happened in Hebron, we would have seen a new pogrom."

When asked if the Palestinian Police should be disbanded, Levy said, "I don't think it's practical, and if it's not practical, it should not be suggested. It will just create some tension that will harm the peace process."

Instead, he said, Israel insists

that the Palestinian Authority control its forces.

"To create this unrest, including the shoot-out with the police, is a grave breach of the agreement and the results have been tragic," Levy said, adding that "Israel will never agree to a situation in which its partners in peace regard opening fire as a means to sort out problems."

Levy also assailed as unbalanced the resolution, passed on Saturday by the UN Security Council, which indirectly called on Israel to close the Hasmonean Tunnel. The resolution also did not specifically mention Israeli casualties. The council's vote was 14-0, with the United States abstaining.

"We suddenly find ourselves in a situation where, with each move we make in Jerusalem, it is suddenly claimed that it is illegal," he said. "Whoever asks, 'Why did you open this tunnel?' is really asking: 'Why do you think Jerusalem is yours?'"

Levy, who was to travel to Washington yesterday for the summit, was due back in New York on Thursday to address the UN General Assembly.



Signs supporting a "strong and courageous" Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu were hung on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem Highway yesterday as Netanyahu left for the airport on his way to Washington. (Brian Hender)

IDF bars Israeli journalists from PA areas

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THE army has barred indefinitely all Israeli journalists from entering areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, a move some journalists say would lead to a warped, Palestinian-supplied picture of the situation. Other journalists said they would ignore the ban.

IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Oded Ben-Ami denied the move was an attempt to prevent coverage of IDF activity and was done purely with the reporters' safety in mind.

"We have no intention of hiding anything," Ben-Ami said. "The IDF bears responsibility for every citizen of the state, including journalists."

Israeli soldiers at the crossing in Tulkarm firmly prevented this reporter from entering the Palestinian-controlled town.

Ben-Ami insisted that the ban only includes Israeli journalists and that foreign reporters, or more accurately those with foreign passports, would still be able to enter Area A, albeit at their own risk.

But the move also imposes restrictions on the foreign media since nearly all their camera oper-

ators and sound men are Israeli citizens. Bob Simon, the CBS correspondent in Israel, reiterated this point.

"If they make a distinction on paper between foreign journalists and Israeli journalists it sounds better than it is, because all the American and foreign television networks here use Israeli crews. If we go someplace without a camera it doesn't do us any good for television," Simon said.

"We have one Palestinian cameraman and he was shot last week," Simon added.

Simon said the motive behind the army order was suspicious. Simon, who was captured and held prisoner by Iraqi troops during the Gulf war after slipping past US forces into Iraqi territory, said journalists should be able to enter areas at their own risk.

Ben-Ami said that even if journalists say they are entering at their own risk, Israel could not accept it and bears ultimate responsibility for them. He said that the dramatic rescue last Thursday at the Erez crossing of a Channel 2 TV crew came at the

price of three wounded IDF soldiers, one of whom was in critical condition.

"The Israeli citizen cannot make me not responsible for his security," Ben-Ami said.

Eitan Rabin, military reporter for *Ha'aretz*, also opposed the restrictions.

"A journalist needs to get his information from the field and the decision is forcing us to rely on Palestinian reports and they often give just their point of view and this bears a risk of distortion," Rabin said.

The Federation of Israeli Journalists blasted the IDF decision and threatened to take it to the High Court of Justice.

"By using the slogan of 'closed military area,' the army is trying to restrict any media coverage and thus hiding from the public information on what is happening in the cities of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip," a statement said.

Benny Berman, a cameraman for WTN and an Israeli citizen, said he suspected the move was an attempt to reduce the bad publicity Israel was receiving from the

foreign media. He said he would not hesitate trying to get into areas A.

"I want to report the truth. If I see a policeman standing there, I think I have the right to stand there too. He does his job. I do my job," Berman said.

Government Press Office Director Moshe Fogel said freedom of the press is very important, but that security considerations are more so at this time.

"I think that we have a unique situation and I think that this period will be very short," Fogel told Israel Radio.

Meanwhile, two Israeli TV crew members were pelted with stones and slightly injured yesterday near Hebron. The incident occurred in Area B next to Halhoul. The army treated the journalists on the spot.

Palestinians bracing for new round of violence

STEVE RODAN

PALESTINIAN security officials warned yesterday of a new round of battles with the IDF unless the Washington summit produces dramatic results that will satisfy Palestinian demands.

They said they are concerned that Palestinians in the territories will confront Israeli troops within the next 36 hours if Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat does not attend.

The officials said tension is high among Palestinians, and pointed to Israeli reinforcements, including tanks and helicopters, as increasing Palestinian fears of an imminent IDF attack.

They said they do not know whether they can count on maintaining discipline within the ranks of the police and other security forces without Arafat's presence.

"Until Wednesday, we have to be prepared for anything," one official said.

At a forum organized by the Israel Palestinian Center for Research and Information, leading Palestinians warned of renewed violence unless the government of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu quickly moves to redeploy in Hebron and close the Hasmonean Tunnel in Jerusalem's Old City.

"Without this implementation, things could get out of hand and I don't know how things could be contained," PA Deputy Minister Anis Qaq said.

Mahdi Abdul Hadi, head of the Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs, went further. "I think in the coming 10 days, we will witness Palestinian anger," he said.

Abdul Hadi said the Palestinians have revolted, and unless Arafat achieves gains in Washington his position will be endangered. "He will be in prison in Gaza," he said. "He will be isolated in Gaza."

Army calls up settlers

THE army has reinforced the guard around Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria, and has issued hundreds of emergency call-up notices to settlers to help bolster security there.

The IDF Spokesman confirmed that the IDF has been calling up scores of settlers over the past few days and that they would be deployed to help protect settlements.

Such summons are usually only issued in times of war or national emergency.

The settlers, many of whom

already do their annual reserve duty guarding settlements and roads near their settlements, are to be used as to beef up the IDF forces already deployed throughout the territories. In some settlements, all male residents were told to stay at home on standby for a call up.

Many reserve officers have already gone into uniform and are coordinating security efforts between the army and settlers.

"Nobody knows the area better than we do. Nobody knows our needs better than we do," said one settler.

Arieh O'Sullivan

Arafat, Mubarak seek Israeli assurances

CAIRO (Reuters) - Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, in revolt against US diplomacy, yesterday asked President Bill Clinton to postpone the Middle East summit set for today in Washington.

Arafat and Mubarak met for more than two hours in the town of Burg al-Arab, and Arab diplomats said they are still seeking assurances that the summit will result in firm guarantees of Israeli gestures toward the Palestinians. Later that day, the White House announced that Mubarak will not be attending the summit.

"I received an invitation from His Excellency President Clinton and I sent him my reply," Arafat told reporters after arriving in Cairo from Burg al-Arab.

Asked what his reply was, he said: "I can't say before he receives the reply ... The

important thing is how to implement accurately what has been agreed upon."

Earlier in the day, Arafat asked Clinton to delay the summit to allow more time for preparations.

"Mubarak has joined Arafat in calling for a delay," a PLO official added.

"Mubarak wants to see a clearly defined program of action. And he doesn't want to get involved in an unsuccessful summit," said an Arab diplomat close to the Arafat-Mubarak talks. "So far the Israelis are still being intransigent. Contacts are continuing, but the position is not clear."

"The idea was to agree on most everything here before going to Washington, but no conclusions were reached," said Marwan Kanafani, an Arafat aide.

"The Israelis refused to agree on any political issues. They wanted to discuss security

issues. They are not serious, and Arafat has no desire to meet Netanyahu just for the sake of meeting him," added a PLO official.

Arafat left for Luxembourg yesterday afternoon for discussions with European Union officials. The PLO source said Arafat would then go on to Washington, but did not make clear when he would depart.

Arafat apparently wanted Mubarak at the session to back up his demands that Israel fulfill pledges made in earlier peace accords with the Palestinians.

Kanafani also indicated Arafat was hesitant about going to the summit.

"The picture yesterday was positive; we were flexible and gave our consent to the summit. The idea was participating in a five-party conference. We discovered today that there is another formula and President Mubarak might not attend the summit. This

has worried us very much," he told Israel Radio. "Egypt and President Mubarak have a very important role in the talks. His role is essential for getting out of the crisis."

In an interview published yesterday, Mubarak said that unless Netanyahu carries out agreements, the violence could break out again.

"The situation can explode again, as long as the agreements and treaties are not implemented," he told the party newspaper *Maya*. "The latest events in the Palestinian territories are the natural result of procrastination in carrying out the articles of the agreements and the severe pressure on the economy of the Palestinian people."

"I have warned before, and I warn again of a new uprising by the Palestinians if they are in despair or lose hope that they will obtain their rights, as enshrined in charters."

Jordan summons Israeli ambassador

AMMAN (AP) - As King Hussein was on his way to the Washington summit yesterday, Jordan summoned Ambassador Shimon Shamir and criticized Israel for its decision to open an archeological tunnel near Moslem holy sites in Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti summoned Shamir, and issued a statement condemning Israeli attempts "to change the cultural and religious reality, as well as the geographic aspects of the Holy City."

"Jordan, which is committed completely to the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, expects that Israel would also be committed to all the articles which respect ... the holy shrines in Jerusalem."

Kabariti's statement added.

He also stressed the importance of implementing agreements signed by the Palestinians and the Israelis in order to push the peace process forward.

Shamir said that Israel is ready to continue the peace process. He mentioned that this willingness existed before the recent events, whose only effect was to delay the negotiations.

Hussein, meanwhile, was headed to Washington, where he was invited by President Bill Clinton

to attend a meeting that will also include Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, and possibly Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

EU moves to restore influence in Middle East peace process

LUXEMBOURG (News agencies) The European Union moved to restore lost influence in the Middle East peace process yesterday with a hastily arranged meeting of some of its foreign ministers with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Arafat arrived in Luxembourg last night for talks with the EU's "troika," made up of the foreign ministers of the 15-nation bloc's past, current and future presidents, in this case Italy, Ireland and the Netherlands.

Asked at the airport what he wanted from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Arafat told reporters, "I am not asking for the moon, I am only asking for what had been agreed upon and what had been signed to be implemented accurately and honestly."

Despite intensive French efforts to win bigger a Middle East role, US President Bill Clinton excluded the Europeans from the summit line-up when he invited leaders of Israel, the PA, Egypt and Jordan to Washington.

The snub irritated some European governments, who are

the main paymasters of the US-dominated peace process, but have been denied a high-profile political role ever since the 1991 Madrid conference which launched it.

The French Foreign Ministry said Foreign Minister Herve de Charette would meet Arafat in Luxembourg today, the day the Washington summit is to start.

De Charette vented frustration in a radio interview on Sunday at Europe's exclusion from the Washington summit.

"That is certainly unfortunate," he said. "That is certainly not a positive step for things to go forward."

But not everyone shared French pique. British officials said Washington had coordinated closely with the Europeans, even if the EU was not at the table.

"We welcome the prospect of the summit. It seems perfectly sensible that it should be held under the auspices of the United States," a British Foreign Office spokesman said.

French Foreign Ministry spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt said the Washington meeting would be only "a curtain raiser for negotiations that will take place in

the Middle East under the auspices of President Hosni Mubarak.

"It is regrettable that we will not be there for the curtain raising. The European Union has its place in the peace process. It is bound to be part of a peace settlement, because it finances 75 percent of aid to the Palestinian territories."

Diplomats said Arafat and Mubarak had sought to include France or the EU's Irish presidency in the summit line-up, but had met with a refusal by the US and Israel.

The three major EU powers - France, Britain and Germany - made an unprecedented joint appeal to Netanyahu and Arafat last Friday to resume top-level peace negotiations immediately.

Unlike the US, which has refrained from public criticism of Israel, they called for the closure of the Hasmonean Tunnel which triggered last week's violence.

It was the first such joint foreign policy initiative by the "Big Three," and was aimed at maximizing European influence and responding to complaints that the EU is too slow and powerless in reacting to crises close to its borders.

Palestinians demonstrate in New York

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

MORE than 300 Palestinians demonstrated across the street from the Israeli Consulate here yesterday, chanting "Close the tunnel now" and "Long Live Palestine."

With keffiyehs around their necks, men in business suits and boys in T-shirts waved Palestinian flags and held banners in what was believed to be the first significant

Palestinian demonstration here since the intifada.

They stood under a street sign for "Yitzhak Rabin Way" - Second Avenue was renamed for the slain prime minister last year.

In a dramatic touch, a stream of cars, sporting Palestinian

flags, moved steadily down the street. The protest was organized by the Palestinian American Congress, which called on President Bill Clinton to use his influence to prod Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to withdraw from Hebron, cancel plans to expand settlements, and resume the final status negotiations.

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Senior Dole advisers flay Clinton's foreign policy

WASHINGTON (Reuter) - Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole's senior advisers attacked President Bill Clinton's foreign policy yesterday as being in disarray.

Their assessment - an unusually blunt one, even in the context of party politics - was made on the eve of the Middle East summit in Washington.

"I think that is fair to say that everyone shares the view that American foreign policy is in a serious state of disarray, with one failure after another observed over the last three weeks and, before that, months," former United Nations ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick said.

Kirkpatrick, former Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle and former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger attacked Clinton's foreign policy at a news conference after meeting with Dole.

Other former Republican administration officials, including former secretaries of state Henry Kissinger and George Shultz, former defense secretary Dick Cheney, and former under secretary of state Paul Wolfowitz, took

part in the meeting through a telephone conference call.

The news conference seemed designed to try to minimize any positive political reaction Clinton might reap from calling Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein to Washington to discuss the Middle East peace process.

Dole was not at the news conference, but Kirkpatrick said, "Senator Dole, who is always concerned about America's position in the world and our security, is deeply concerned about [foreign policy]."

Schlesinger said there was "concern about a pattern in which initiatives of the administration or responses by the administration tend to blow up, and that each of these is initially proclaimed as a foreign policy success." He cited Somalia, Northern Ireland and Iraq as well as the Middle East peace process.

Perle criticized policy toward Iraq, saying its leader, Saddam Hussein, "has emerged far stronger than before."

Asked how Dole would deal differently with the violence in Israel, Kirkpatrick said he believed that "Clinton has engaged in shocking kinds of intervention in Israeli political life... that they have brought pressure to bear on Israel repeatedly in the course of the famous peace process," and had claimed credit for earlier successes that resulted from negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians.

Perle said, "What I think Senator Dole would like to hear from the administration is a clear declaration that the violence must be ended unconditionally and that we will not apply pressure or demand concessions from the Israelis, who are the victims of this violence, as a condition for ending this violence, and I don't think he has heard this."

On Sunday, Dole issued a statement saying the "violence is a painful reminder that too many differences have been glossed over in earlier stages of the peace process."

"Neither the United States nor any other party can impose a solution," he said of the summit. "The role of the United States should, as always, be that of friend and facilitator."

Way ahead in UK polls, Labor conference looks forward to election

BLACKPOOL, England (AP) - With an election no more than six months away, the Labor Party opened its annual conference on Monday buoyed by yet another opinion poll showing it ahead of the governing Conservatives.

"Labor is preparing for government," Gordon Brown, the party's spokesman on taxation and spending, told delegates.

But few in the party believe they are as far ahead as the polls say. The last election, which Labor won in the opinion polls and lost at the ballot box, proved how fickle opinion can be.

A Gallup poll published in *The Daily Telegraph* yesterday showed Labor as the choice of 54 percent, compared with 27 percent for the governing Conservatives.

The lead of 27 percentage points, while comfortable, was down six points from the first of October, Gallup said.

Other polls show Labor with a more modest lead, though still in double figures. Regardless, no government has been re-elected after being so far behind for so long in opinion polls.

As the conference opened yesterday, delegates frequently called it "the last conference in opposi-

tion," after 17 years of Conservative Party government under Margaret Thatcher and John Major.

Under the slogan, "New Labor, New Life for Britain," the party spelled out key points of attack in the coming campaign: it promises smaller classes in schools, tough action on crime, shorter waiting lists for treatment from the National Health Service, more jobs for the young and a strong economy.

Brown spelled out some of the differences the country could expect from a Labor government: a national minimum wage, a special tax on the utilities sold into private ownership in recent years, and a national program of nursery education and child care.

The Conservatives hold their conference next week. The annual gatherings give the parties extended exposure on daytime television, and their debates usually dominate the news for a week.

Anthony King, professor of government at Essex University, commented that the latest Gallup survey showed that voters like the Labor Party more than they did five years ago, before Major led his party to a fourth

consecutive election victory. Since that election defeat, Neil Kinnock resigned as Labor leader, his successor John Smith died in 1994, and Tony Blair has shoved the party further toward the center - "the radical center," as he calls it.

Blair has jettisoned its old commitment to nationalizing industry, it has curbed the power of trade unions within the party, and it talks about the necessity of holding the line on government spending and inflation.

Blair has all but changed the party's name, referring constantly to "New Labor." Asked whether they believe Labor has its heart in the right place and would do a good job in government, 40 percent said "yes" in the latest Gallup survey, up from 34 percent in 1991.

Thirty-six percent thought the party had its heart in the right place but would probably make a mess of it in government.

Only 11 percent thought Labor had its heart in the wrong place. That's bad news for the Conservatives, who recently ran a poster showing demonic eyes lurking behind the smiling face of Tony Blair.

On eve of US elections, Clinton hosts no-risk summit

ANALYSIS
HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - Five weeks from today, President Bill Clinton's political fate will be decided by the American voting public.

But with 35 days to go, few analysts see what is arguably the most crucial summit meeting of the Middle East peace process to be as vital to Clinton's future in office.

The risks for Clinton appear to be low, and he might, conversely, have been more of a political target for not weighing in and offering to host today's summit involving Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PA President Yasser Arafat.

He could have then faced accusations of refusing to dirty his hands, of playing it safe with a view toward November 5 by ducking a foreign policy quandary while the shooting continued, rather than bringing the power of his office to bear on the situation.

That would have been a bitter pill for Clinton to swallow given his central role in encouraging the peace and his convening of March's anti-terrorism conference in Sharm el-Sheikh when Israel faced its last deadly crisis.

Even Republican challenger Robert Dole, who faces Clinton on Sunday in their first televised debate, issued a statement saying the summit "could be, and we hope will be, a step toward ending

the violence."

Rarely in recent elections have foreign policy matters influenced the electorate's vote for the next president. In 1980, the year-long Iranian hostage crisis, as much as inflation, undid Jimmy Carter.

"From Clinton's perspective, I don't see how [he] as president could lose," said Richard Murphy, former assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs during the 1980s. "I could see how the process can be hurt if nothing comes out. I don't see how he can be faulted for trying."

"There is no risk to the president but there is a risk to the process if both [Netanyahu and Arafat] go away saying, 'In that High Court there was no answer. If the president of the US could not do it, for God's sake what are we to think?'"

As Lee Hamilton, ranking Democrat on the House International Relations Committee, told a television interviewer yesterday: "I am sure he would prefer that this crisis not come along at this particular moment. But presidents don't have that choice."

"Yes, it's ironic," said Murphy, "that the president who didn't want to give priority to foreign policy is spending the eve of the debate with Netanyahu and Arafat."

Pope to have appendix removed

VATICAN CITY (Reuter) - Pope John Paul will undergo surgery next week to remove his appendix, the Vatican announced yesterday.

It said all papal audiences would be suspended from October 7 "as a result of the holy father's hospitalization."

The brief statement did not specify which day the Polish-born pontiff, 76, would be admitted to Rome's Gemelli Hospital nor when the operation would take place.

Chief Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the pope would probably announce details himself in his midday address on Sunday after leading a beatification service at St Peter's. Vatican sources said they expected the pontiff to go to Gemelli on Sunday evening.

Rome court papers reveal judges thought Priebke 'not particularly cruel'

ROME (AP) - The court that ordered freedom for former Nazi SS captain Erich Priebke, who helped massacre 335 civilians, painted the portrait of a basically law-abiding man who followed orders to avoid punishment.

Priebke "shows a nearly non-existent capacity to commit crimes," Judge Agostino Quistelli wrote in a decision released yesterday.

"The former SS captain helped pick the victims, handled the list of their names and killed two people in the World War II slaughter in Rome - but acted mainly to avoid the 'uncertain consequences of a difficult and problematic disobedience,'" said Quistelli, chief of the military tribunal that heard Priebke's trial last summer.

The civilians were killed in retaliation for a bomb attack by resistance fighters that killed 33

German soldiers.

The three-judge panel on August 1 convicted Priebke of helping in the killings, but acquitted him of acting with premeditation and cruelty. Prosecutors needed a finding of those elements to get around Italy's 30-year statute of limitation on murder.

Priebke, 83, immediately was re-arrested after an uproar to face extradition to Germany, and he remains in jail in Rome.

The court elaborated on its ruling in yesterday's filing, required under Italian law. The Italian news agencies AGI and ANSA released excerpts.

Quistelli said that if the statute of limitations had not run out, Priebke would have gotten a 21 to 30-year prison term.

Priebke did not act with premeditation because the reprisal was not his idea, and because of the brief amount of time between

the orders and the massacre. The Nazi high command ordered the retaliation, which took place within about 24 hours of the bomb attack.

The prosecution and lawyers for victims' families said the killings were particularly cruel because victims were gunned down while standing on the corpses of those previously shot.

"That scenario 'was not certain,'" Quistelli said. "It was a matter of addressing Priebke's actions at SS headquarters, where suspects were tortured, the court said that though Priebke punched people in the face and chest, 'a particular ferocity or cruelty does not emerge.'"

Priebke's life before his arrest also helped his case.

He "was a quiet retiree who belonged to a very normal small bourgeois family" and had a blameless record, Quistelli wrote.

SUMMIT

(Continued from Page 1)

Christopher said it was clear that "the Middle East peace process is in a state of crisis. The parties are quite estranged and raw because of the violence and killings."

He said the objectives of the summit are that the Israelis and Palestinians would begin to talk together again, that they would commit to end the violence, and that they would find a basis for resuming peace negotiations.

Netanyahu and Hussein were due to arrive here late last night and hold preparatory meetings with US officials. Arafat will travel to Washington this morning after his meeting with EU foreign ministers. Irish diplomats said yesterday in Luxembourg, according to Reuters.

Netanyahu is scheduled to meet with Clinton this morning, followed an hour later by the first plenary.

The Middle East leaders will also hold one-on-one meetings with Christopher throughout the day, as well as a second plenary tomorrow. Netanyahu is also scheduled to meet with Republican presidential candidate Robert Dole this afternoon.

McCurry and Burns said the administration is intent on utilizing the summit to help restore calm to the region and reinvo-

rate the peace process by bringing Netanyahu and Arafat together.

There was no confirmation, however, that the two would meet.

A senior administration official said that redeployment from Hebron and opening a safe passage from Gaza to the West Bank would be on the agenda, but that Israel's beefed-up security presence in the territories would not be.

"There is a need to restore calm and stability to the streets of the West Bank and Gaza and Jerusalem," Burns said. "There is a need to put the fighting behind them. There is a need to get together and to talk and begin a discussion."

He conceded that not all issues would be resolved at the summit and discussions "would have to continue well beyond their departure from Washington."

"The president's primary objective in hosting this meeting is to see the parties renegotiated on the substance of the peace process," McCurry said.


"You can tell the difficulty we face in this process just in the lead-up to this conference. We've seen some hesitancy even today on the part of Chairman Arafat. That reflects the level of distrust and misunderstanding that exists now."

HEBRON

(Continued from Page 1) will be numerous protests from the right, both to counteract the demonstrations by the left and as a way of applying pressure on Netanyahu, so that he can tell the US administration that he can not domestically afford to carry out certain policies.

One Kiryat Arba activist said that beyond protests against redeployment, plans are being drawn up to actively combat any IDF withdrawal from Hebron. He would not elaborate.

Settlement activists said there


MANPOWER BRANCH
Defense Service Law
(Consolidated Version) 1986

Order to Report for Registration at District Recruiting Offices

Male and female Israeli citizens and permanent residents, born between September 22, 1979 and March 17, 1980, both dates inclusive, must report for registration at their district recruiting office, in accordance with the Order to Report for Registration which they have received.

Men and women born between the above dates who have not received an Order to Report for Registration must register at 8:00 a.m., at one of the recruiting offices mentioned in Table A, on the date appropriate for their date of birth, as given in Table B.

TABLE A

- Jerusalem - Recruiting Office, 103 Rehov Hashi (Mekor Baruch)
- Tel Hashomer - Recruiting Office (boys), Tel Hashomer IDF Base (near Kiron)
- Tel Hashomer - Recruiting Office (girls), Shaichet, Tel Hashomer IDF Base (near Kiron)
- Haifa - Recruiting Office, 12 Rehov Omer el-Khayam
- BeerSheva - Recruiting Office, 22 Rehov Yad Vashem
- Tiberias - Recruiting Office, Rehov Natrat

TABLE B

DATE OF BIRTH		DATE OF REGISTRATION	
BETWEEN	AND	MEN	WOMEN
September 22, 1979	October 6, 1979	October 6, 1996	October 23, 1996
October 7, 1979	October 21, 1979	October 7, 1996	October 24, 1996
October 22, 1979	November 5, 1979	October 8, 1996	October 27, 1996
November 6, 1979	November 20, 1979	October 9, 1996	October 28, 1996
November 21, 1979	December 6, 1979	October 10, 1996	October 29, 1996
December 6, 1979	December 20, 1979	October 13, 1996	October 30, 1996
December 21, 1979	January 4, 1980	October 14, 1996	October 31, 1996
January 5, 1980	January 18, 1980	October 15, 1996	November 3, 1996
January 19, 1980	February 2, 1980	October 16, 1996	November 4, 1996
February 3, 1980	February 17, 1980	October 17, 1996	November 5, 1996
February 18, 1980	March 3, 1980	October 21, 1996	November 6, 1996
March 4, 1980	March 17, 1980	October 22, 1996	November 12, 1996
Those liable for National Service or Reserve Service		November 28, 1996	

Male Israeli citizens and permanent residents, born between April 1, 1956 and September 21, 1979, and who immigrated to Israel before May 2, 1986, and who do not receive an Order to Report for Registration for service in the security services by November 27, 1996, must report at their nearest Recruiting Office on November 28, 1996, at 8:00 a.m. Those reporting must appear on the date and at the time noted in the order they receive or, if they do not receive such an order, on the date noted above. It is strictly forbidden to come at a time other than that noted in the order, unless prior permission has been obtained from the officer in charge of the recruiting office.

Those reporting should bring their identity card or registration slip they have received from the Ministry of the Interior, or their birth certificate. Immigrants should also bring their tourist visa and passport. A woman who is married, is the mother of a child, or is pregnant, and who does not have a certificate testifying that she is legally exempt from defense duty, is required to come to a recruiting office and to bring documents testifying to her personal and family status, in order that she may be issued a certificate exempting her from duty.

From the date of publication of this notice, everyone who is required to report, and who wishes to go abroad must obtain a permit to do so from the officer in charge of a recruiting office.

Avi Zamir
Chief Recruiting Officer, Manpower Branch

NOTE: The complete text of the Order to Report for Registration will be published in Kovetz Hatzakanot, September 1996

In these times you cannot AFFORD to be without THE JERUSALEM POST

Dorothy's journey to Oz may have begun with baby's death

CHRISTOPHER WILLS
BLOOMINGTON, Illinois

THE story of the brave farmgirl who was carried to Oz by a Kansas tornado may have been born in the heartbreaking death of an infant in Illinois.

Five-month-old Dorothy Gage died in 1898 as her uncle was writing *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. The tragedy inspired L. Frank Baum to name his heroine Dorothy Gale and make her the ideal girl his family imagined the real Dorothy could have become, historian Sally Roesch Wagner believes.

"If someone dies in your family, the immediate use of that name is done in a very careful and respectful way," Wagner said last week. "It becomes a name with a lot of import, a lot of emotional meaning."

Wagner has known about the real Dorothy for years, ever since the girl's sister mentioned her during a discussion of family history. But it was only during a recent trip to Illinois that Wagner was able to find Dorothy's timeworn tombstone in the north-central Illinois city of Bloomington.

Records at Evergreen Cemetery led Wagner to a tiny gray stone, its letters reduced to illegible grooves. The director of the McLean County Historical Society, Greg Koos, suggested an old genealogy trick: spread shaving cream on the stone and then wipe away the excess to reveal the letters.

"I brought the squeegee down and there was 'Dorothy.' It took on life then," Wagner said. "She really was buried in Bloomington. There really was a Dorothy."

Dorothy was the niece of Baum's wife, Maud Gage Baum. When the sickly child died, Maud Gage Baum traveled from Chicago to Bloomington for the funeral. She had always wanted a daughter of her own, and the funeral upset her so much that she needed medical attention, Wagner said.

Baum dedicated *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* to his wife when it was published in 1900. Wagner believes the character of Dorothy was a gift to his wife.

"He gave Maud her Dorothy in an immortal way," said Wagner, who is writing a biography of Mrs. Baum's mother, an activist for women's rights.

Baum biographer Michael Patrick Hearn said he is convinced the infant's death led Baum to use the name in his Oz stories.

"She was too important to the family," he said. "I think her death certainly gave [Baum] the name, and I think he modeled Dorothy on his nieces."

Baum wrote 14 Oz books, and the series continued with other authors after his death. The books inspired several films, most famously the 1939 musical version with Judy Garland. (AP)

TALKS

(Continued from Page 1) serve to reinforce Palestinian use of violence as a lever in the talks.

While Israel would have liked all parties to attend the Washington summit, there do not seem to be any regrets in the Netanyahu entourage that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak may not be there, since he is seen as not seeking to soften, and perhaps even hardening, the Palestinian position.

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, in his capacity as head of the ministerial panel on economic cooperation with the Palestinians, suggested that after

last week's violence, Netanyahu has little room to maneuver in making gestures to the Palestinians. He said that at Thursday night's marathon cabinet meeting, the overwhelming majority of ministers were "to the right of Netanyahu" in urging a tough line in dealing with the violence.

He noted that if Hebron redeployment came before the cabinet this week, it would be defeated.

Meanwhile, a senior official said that if there had been no violence last week, Netanyahu would have implemented Hebron redeployment by November.

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Taleban claim victories in northward push

ALISTAIR LYON
KABUL

AFGHANISTAN'S Islamic Taleban militia swept northward in relentless pursuit of the country's former government forces yesterday, claiming victory over key towns and a province north of the capital Kabul.

Monday night. A second prong pushed north from Jalalabad, up the Salang highway that runs north from Kabul into central Asia. The fighters in Gorbahar said Taleban troops had reached the southern end of a major tunnel on the highway. They also said that northern Uzbek militia leader Abdul Rashid Dostum had moved significant forces into the area north of the Salang tunnel, which crosses the formidable Hindu Kush mountain range, over the past few days. Taleban sources quoted by a Pakistan-based Afghan news service said that Kapisa province to the east of Gorbahar and its capital Mahmud-i-Raqi had fallen to the militia yesterday. Mohammed Gul, deputy Taleban commander of a military barracks near Kabul, said the militia planned to seize all the territo-

ry held by the former government. "We intend to capture all the former government areas, including the Salang tunnel and the Panjshir," he said. However it was not immediately clear how easy it would be for the Taleban to capture the valley, held by Masood's men throughout the 1980s against several major assaults by Soviet troops backing Kabul's then-communist government. The speed of his retreat - from Kabul to the valley in just three days - seemed to have dismayed the Tajik people he leads. "We just don't know what's happening. We don't know whether Masood has a plan or is just running," said one ethnic Tajik shopkeeper in Gorbahar as a jeepload of Taleban fighters swept past in a cloud of dust. One traveler from the Panjshir valley who arrived in Kabul yesterday said he heard that Masood was telling his people that they could no longer rely on his protection.



Anti-Benazir Bhutto protesters shout slogans under the watchful eye of police outside the Connaught Rooms in London yesterday where the Pakistani prime minister was delivering the keynote speech to the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Bhutto is in Britain on a two-day official visit. (Reuters)

Bosnian presidency meets at suburban Sarajevo motel

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - The Serb, Croat and Muslim members of Bosnia's new collective presidency held their first meeting yesterday since being elected in mid-September, officials said. The presidency chairman, Muslim representative Alija Izetbegovic, was the last to reach the venue, the Saraj motel on the eastern approaches to Sarajevo. Reporters near the motel said Izetbegovic arrived at around 4 p.m., one hour after the Croat representative Kresimir Zubak and 45 minutes after the Serb presidency member Momcilo Krajsnik. It was not immediately

clear why he was late. A spokesman from the office of the international High Representative said each delegation had a separate room, and began their meeting at 4:20 p.m. The international high representative, Carl Bildt, and his deputy, Michael Steiner, attended the start of the talks, but left soon afterwards. The spokesman said only a pooled television crew would be allowed to film parts of the meeting. Other media representatives were prevented from entering the venue. International mediators had struggled for

two weeks to broker an agreement over where to hold the first session. Izetbegovic and Zubak both wanted the meeting in central Sarajevo, but Krajsnik said he did not feel safe there, and wanted to convene the presidency on the boundary line between the Serb republic and the Muslim-Croat federation. Krajsnik entered the city from the Serb's mountain village headquarters of Pale for the first time since war erupted in April 1992. Security services had thrown a tight cordon around the building. Reporters said

they blocked all traffic and pedestrians from moving within half a kilometer of the motel and towed away any cars parked in the vicinity. The presidency, charged with governing a union of Serb and Muslim-Croat territories, was chosen in Bosnia's first post-war general elections on September 14. Alija Izetbegovic, a Muslim, won most votes in the presidential race and will serve as the body's chairman for a two-year term. Izetbegovic narrowly defeated Krajsnik, his sworn enemy during 3 1/2 years of war, for the chairman's post.

Chechnya troop withdrawal ahead of schedule

MOSCOW (AP) - Russia's security chief Alexander Lebed and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin met yesterday to discuss peace efforts in Chechnya ahead of talks later this week with separatist leaders. Lebed briefed Chernomyrdin on progress on implementing his peace plan in Chechnya and on his talks with regional leaders in Russia's northern Caucasus region last week. A delegation headed by separatist leader Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev is expected in Moscow this week, and Chernomyrdin might meet with Yandarbiyev, the prime minister's spokesman, Viktor Kononov, told Russian news agencies. Officials close to Chernomyrdin said his meeting with Yandarbiyev, if it happens, will focus on guidelines for creating a coalition government in the break-away republic and federal funding for Chechnya's post-war restoration, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency. Lebed's agreement with the separatists, signed five weeks ago, envisages a Russian pullout and postpones any decision on Chechnya's political status for five years. It also speaks of forming a coalition government - a thorny issue since the rebels are determined to exclude the Moscow-backed

leader, Doku Zavgayev, and his closest aides. The agreement has brought criticism in Moscow where many see it as defeatist and fear it would lead to Chechnya's secession. In the State Duma, parliament's lower house, nearly 100 lawmakers have signed an appeal to the Constitutional Court, asking it to check the accord's validity. The document is expected to be formally submitted to the court this week, the Interfax news agency reported. Lebed, a retired general, is focusing his efforts on the troop pullout, saying Chechnya's eventual status is "a question of diplomacy." His agreement with the separatists has largely held, and the withdrawal is proceeding even faster than scheduled, according to the federal command in Chechnya. It said yesterday that the pullout of about 11,000 Defense Ministry troops will be completed by the end of October, two weeks ahead of schedule. The withdrawal of Interior Ministry troops, reportedly numbering about 20,000, is expected to start in mid-October. "The agreement on troop withdrawal is being fulfilled by the Russian side quite satisfactorily," rebel spokesman Movladi Udugov told ITAR-Tass.

Car bomb placed by breakaway terrorist group defused in Belfast

BELFAST (Reuters) - British security forces said yesterday that they destroyed a suspected bomb in a car abandoned in central Belfast overnight by maverick Irish republican guerrillas. It was the first bomb incident in Belfast since the Irish Republican Army declared a truce two years ago in its campaign to end British rule of Northern Ireland, according to security sources. The car was hijacked in a Catholic district of the city by three masked men on Sunday and left in a Belfast square. A warning was telephoned to a newspaper and components used in bomb-making were found in the debris after a controlled explosion. "The vehicle was found to contain a large plastic bag... a quantity of granular material was found, together with an alarm clock, batteries and electrical wiring," a police spokeswoman said. "At this stage it is believed it was a bomb." The warning was delivered by a man purporting to speak for a shadowy anti-British group, the "Irish Continuity Army," which was blamed for an attack on a hotel in Enniskillen, 120 km west of Belfast, in July. The Irish Continuity Army is composed of a small group of hardliners who opposed the IRA cease-fire. The IRA called off its truce in February and has planted a number of bombs on the British mainland and in Germany. But it has not launched any gun or explosive attacks in Northern Ireland.

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Kashmir ends polling, looks to democracy

SRINAGAR, India (Reuters) - Scattered gunfire punctuated the last day of voting in local polls in India's Jammu and Kashmir state yesterday but there were no reported deaths as the region prepared for the return of democracy. About 56 percent of eligible voters turned out on the fourth and final day of balloting for the state assembly, which was dissolved in 1990 after a separatist revolt erupted. The turnout was described as "quite satisfactory" by an official in the state's summer capital Srinagar shortly after polling ended at 5 p.m. Officials had said an estimated 300,000 people in the mountainous Doda district, 250 km south of Srinagar, were eligible to vote for 45 candidates in the polls to six of the state's 87 assembly seats. Some 22,000 paramilitary troops guarded the polls. Many of the guerrilla groups fighting either for

independence or merger with Islamic Pakistan have hide-outs in Doda's bleak terrain, and officials had feared voters would be the target of attacks. Security forces exchanged fire with militants in four incidents during the day. Voting was disrupted for about half an hour in two cases, but was soon back on track, officials said. The streets of Srinagar were mostly deserted and shops were shut as residents observed a strike called by the separatist All Parties Hurriyat (Freedom) Conference, which opposes the polls. In the downtown Maisooma area, some opponents of the polls threw stones at security forces, authorities said. With the polling for the first assembly elections since 1987 now complete, officials began to prepare for the new government, expected to take power by early next week.

New warcrimes chief urges tougher IFOR arrest role

THE HAGUE (Reuters) - The new chief prosecutor at the UN criminal tribunal for former Yugoslavia urged the international community yesterday to give NATO-led forces in Bosnia a fresh mandate to arrest indicted war criminals and send them to stand trial in The Hague. Canadian judge Louise Arbour, who takes over today from Richard Goldstone of South Africa, said the tribunal's credibility depended on reinforcing the political will to help it bring justice to the war-torn region. "It's clearly a question of developing the political will to give IFOR a mandate consistent with the will of the Security Council - and that must include arresting indicted criminals," she told reporters at the tribunal's Hague headquarters. "I'm very skeptical that of all the tasks that could have been given to [the NATO-led Implementation Force] IFOR, this one was just too hard." Arbour, who moves to the Netherlands after five years on the Court of Appeal in the Canadian province of Ontario, said the primary obligation to arrest lay with those states which had suspects in their jurisdiction. "But when there is an alternative [like IFOR], we must press extremely hard for the international community... on site, to itself cooperate fully with the tribunal," she said. "In light of the non-compliance by some parties... the restrictive interpretation that NATO gave to the IFOR mandate is particularly disappointing." Reminded that her predecessor departed with a clear warn-

ing that the tribunal would collapse unless the international community gave it more support, Arbour said she had "some cause for guarded optimism." "Circumstances change. The undesirability of action in one political climate may turn round and become extremely desirable. "There is no single issue more important to the survival of this tribunal... than the actual arrest of indicted war criminals. That will be my very top priority," she said. Accepting that there was mounting frustration at the delay in apprehending indicted war criminals - most notably former Bosnian Serb president Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic - Arbour said she would urge tougher IFOR measures.

French Scientology president on trial for involuntary homicide

LYON, France (AP) - Pressed by a government crackdown on religious cults and sects, a trial opened yesterday for a Church of Scientology leader accused in the 1988 suicide of a follower. Twenty-three other French members of the US-based church are being tried on unrelated charges of fraud and complicity. Prosecutors contend they manipulated people to join the church and give money. France's first major trial involving Scientology is expected to last at least three days, with nearly 30 witnesses to testify. The trial was delayed for years, but Justice Minister Jacques Toubon recently intervened to get it on a fast track. The French government has been policing cults and sects since last December's mass deaths of 16 members of the French Alps. The case centers on the suicide of a member a day after Jean-Jacques Mazier, French leader of the Church of Scientology, allegedly visited his home and asked for 30,000 francs (\$6,000) for a purification treatment. The trial is to establish whether 31-year-old Patrick Vic, who jumped out of a window on March 24, 1988, was brainwashed by daily sauna treatments including a diet low on sugar and high on vitamins. Mazier, charged with involuntary homicide, said yesterday he was "a man of the church" who was only trying to help Vic. "When someone has difficulties in life, Scientologists teach him how to put his life in order," Mazier said. Dr. Jean-Marie Abgrall, an expert to testify in the case, said the treatment was aimed at "facilitating the conditioning and manipulation of members by the Scientologists." Pressure has mounted on the French government to crack down on sects and cults since December 16, when the charred bodies of 16 members of the Swiss-based Order of the Solar Temple were found lying in a star formation in an Alpine clearing. Investigators say not all of the cult disciples died willingly, and the victims included three small children. A parliamentary report issued in January included the Church of Scientology on a list of 173 cults it said should be tracked. Scientology also was singled out among 28 cults the government said were recruiting children. The Church of Scientology, founded in Los Angeles in 1954 by L. Ron Hubbard, also has become embroiled in controversy in neighboring Germany. Members of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government have accused the church of being a danger to German society. Some ministers have called for its members to be banned from government jobs and be put under surveillance.

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Communist ousts incumbent governor in Leningrad vote

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP) - A Communist-backed challenger triumphed in the Leningrad region governor's race, while a reformist incumbent won in the conservative Rostov region, preliminary returns showed yesterday. The closely watched races were some of the first of 52 gubernatorial provincial elections in the next four months. The winners automatically become members of the upper house of parliament, and the Yeltsin administration is working hard to elect as many friendly governors as possible. The government has a strong majority in the upper chamber. The upset Sunday in the Leningrad region, which surrounds liberal St. Petersburg, is certain to raise eyebrows since incumbent Alexander Belyakov was expected to win easily. But he garnered only 31 percent of the vote to 53 percent for Vadim Gustov, who was backed by a broad range of parties ranging from the Greens to pro-reform Yabloko to the Communists. The head of the region's Communist Party described Gustov as an "economic manager, a pragmatist and a professional." Belyakov blamed a low turnout for his defeat. He said many of his supporters stayed home, while the highly disciplined Communist electorate turned out in force. Voters in St. Petersburg, Russia's second-largest city, did not take part in Sunday's elections. The city has its own governor. In the Rostov region of southern Russia, incumbent Gov. Vladimir Chub won with 62 percent of the vote versus Communist challenger Leonid Ivanchenko.

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consecutive election victory. Since that election defeat, Kimmoek resigned as Labor leader, his successor John Smith lost the party further toward the center - "the radical center," as he is called. Labor has jettisoned its old commitment to nationalizing industries, it has curbed the power of unions within the party, and it talks about the necessity of ending the line on government spending and inflation. Blair has all but changed the party's name, referring to it as "New Labor." Asked whether he believed Labor has its heart in the right place and would do a good job of government, 40 percent said "yes" in the latest Gallup survey, from 34 percent in 1991. Thirty-six percent thought the party had its heart in the right place but would probably make a mess of it in government. Only 11 percent thought Blair had his heart in the wrong place. That's bad news for Conservatives, who recently on a poster showing a demoniac lurking behind the smiling face of Tony Blair.

ney to Oz may
h baby's death
HER WILLS
EDON Illinois

I brought the squeakers for Dorothy. It took me a while to find them. Wagner said, "She really was Dorothy." Dorothy was the niece of Baum's wife, Maud Gage. When the sickly child Maud Gage Baum traveled to Chicago to Bloomington for a funeral. She had always wanted to see her mother, and a funeral aspect her so much that she needed medical attention. We Baum dedicated The Wizard of Oz to his wife who was published in 1900. We know the character of Dorothy was a girl to his wife. He gave Maud her Dorothy. Baum's mother, an activist in women's rights. Baum's biographer Mike Mazurk Heum said he is convinced the child's death led Baum to write the Oz stories. She was too important to him. Baum said, "I think her death was the most important thing that happened to me." Baum wrote 14 Oz books. The series continued with Oz after his death. The book was published several times. Baum's 1939 musical was written with Judy Garland.

LLKS
week's violence. Neanderthal room to maneuver. gestures to a... He said that... night's marathon... meetings, the overwhelming majority of ministers were... "Neanyahu" in... line in dealing with... He noted that if Helmut... came before the cabinet... week, it would be... Meanwhile, a senior... that there had been no... last week. Netanyahu... implemented Helmut... by November.

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Room 8, Jerusalem 91000

JEFF BARAK, Managing Editor; ALEC ISRAEL, Associate Editor, Copy; DAN IZENBERG, News Editor; DAVID BRINN, Night Editor; SAM ORBAUM, Features Editor; THOMAS O'DWYER, Foreign Editor; JUDY MONTAGU, Op-Ed Editor; AMOTZ ASA-EL, Business Editor

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Bulwarks against violence

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu arrives in Washington today in the position of a wrestler who, having had his opponent on the ropes for the first few rounds, suddenly finds himself on the mat himself, a second away from being pinned. The bad news is that in this match, if either side "wins," both will lose in long run. The good news is that, unlike in a wrestling match, there is a way for both sides to win.

ing one critical component: the ability to credibly blame Israel for the Palestinian resort to violence. If Palestinian violence cannot be blamed on Israel, it will not be rewarded. What is currently pinning Netanyahu to the mat is the fact that Palestinian violence is being blamed on him, not the Palestinians. The only way to delegitimize and thereby prevent future Palestinian violence is for Israel to be seen in the eyes of most Israelis, including the Center-Left, as doing as much as reasonably possible to achieve peace.



A deadly philosophy

IF the shooting war between Arab and Jew on the West Bank had spread, responsibility would in substantial part have belonged to those governments, politicians and journalists who immediately found the Israelis guilty, without inquiry or anything that could be called thought. The condemnations of Israel and support for Palestinian gun-fighters uphold the right of any group with a grievance to kill civilians, police and soldiers of a government that offends them by its action or existence.

A.M. ROSENTHAL

court and police turned the FBI "siege" in Montana into babysitting rather than law enforcement. If Palestinians have the right to kill soldiers and police because of a second exit in a pedestrian tunnel, the Moslems of Marseilles have the right to take up arms against discrimination they suffer in France - the first of the Western countries to justify the Palestinian armed riot.

The West's condemnation of Israel puts it on a suicide course

Are the condemners saying Israel had no legal right to open a second gate to a tunnel in its own capital? No - the only purpose of the gate was to permit tourists who entered one end to come out the other instead of having to wade back through it. A sensible way to get in more tourists. Are they saying the gate was somehow an affront to Islam? I think they are, and it is disgusting hypocrisy. When Jordan occupied old Jerusalem for the 20 years until Israel retook it in 1967, Jews were all barred, not offered entry gates. Their synagogues were demolished and their graveyards used as latrines.

THE FURY was political, not religious. Yasser Arafat and Israel's Labor Government agreed to the new gate in January. Since then, Labor has lost power and Arafat has lost his appetite for agreements made with Israel, except those he knows most profit him. And two days before the Palestinians started using automatic weapons from their 45,000-man police-army, Arafat made a speech to Palestinians. "We will fight for the cause of Allah and kill and be killed," he said - deliberately choosing the Koranic verse that has become a universal Islamicist war call. Last Thursday, the Arafat-controlled Palestinian TV kept broadcasting a front-page drawing in a newspaper distributed in the Mideast. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu with a Star of David as a bull's-eye target on his chest. Netanyahu had been preparing to reach an agreement on Hebron and to let foreign Arabs put their money into Palestinian enterprises. Arafat's aides were told so; he knew it. Did he incite the trouble, or has he become so politically feeble that he is now out of control, useless to his people, Israel or peace? Either way it was not a gate that broke the peace, not Israel, but the terrorist philosophy that grievance, even about a gate, justifies killing. Only that deadly philosophy emerges stronger, accepted now among its likely next victims. (Courtesy of The New York Times)

Lost art

JAY BUSHINSKY

SUMMITRY may be a lost diplomatic art form in today's world. Originally it was based on leaders of the world's great powers' pursuit of a common goal, and on a common desire to work out problems that could arise after its attainment. And considering the larger-than-life reputations of the men who invented and attended the periodic summit conferences held in Casablanca, Cairo, Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam, these momentous events rarely did seem to be shaping the future of all mankind. But the principals attending the Middle Eastern summit hosted by President Clinton in Washington lack the stature of FDR, Winston Churchill, Josef Stalin and Harry S. Truman (allowing for the admission of Chiang Kai-Shek as a one-time summitter). The Big Three who led the U.S., Great Britain and the Soviet Union during World War II were intent on defeating Nazi Germany and afterward, the Japanese Empire. With that constant objective in mind, they were able to outline, negotiate and determine the post-war map of the world. In contrast, Clinton lacks the charisma of FDR or the single-mindedness of Truman. Nor do Prime Minister Netanyahu and Chairman Arafat agree on the basic prerequisites for peace between their respective peoples. Churchill and Stalin have no contemporary counterparts, and in the latter case, there need be no regret. The fundamental difference underlying the Washington summit is Netanyahu's refusal to embrace the "land-for-peace" concept endorsed by Clinton and promoted by Arafat. King Hussein and President Hosni Mubarak as the most effective means of reducing Israel's territorial dimensions to those of the pre-Six Day War era. This not only requires withdrawal from Hebron (the residual Israeli presence in the pre-1948 Jewish Quarter and at the Cave of

They're calling the Washington meet a summit - but its participants have diverse agendas

the Patriarchs can be dealt with at a later stage), but also from the West Bank's Area C as defined in the Oslo accords, and from the former Jordanian sector of Jerusalem. INASMUCH as it would be foolhardy to expect Netanyahu to go along with this strategy or accede to Arafat's ultimate aim - transformation of the West Bank-Gaza Strip autonomy into a Palestinian state with the Arab-populated districts of Jerusalem as its capital - the other summiters will have no choice but to delve into such secondary issues as the status of Jerusalem's archaeological tunnel, the redeployment of Israeli forces currently in Hebron, the total ban on Palestinian day laborers entering responsibility to prevent mass demonstrations from turning into bloodbaths in which they turn their weapons on Israeli troops. Allowing for the time and effort consumed by photo opportunities, festive dinners and tedious news conferences, the two days allocated by the White House to the Middle East summit are unlikely to be enough to come to grips with these complex problems, not to mention solve them. The most that can be expected is their referral to a subordinate negotiating framework whose participants may be required to report their conclusions to a subsequent Middle East summit. There is a grave danger in resorting to a high-powered summit conference under the personal auspices of the American chief executive. If there is another grave breakdown on the ground, where else can the contending parties go? If East peace process back on track, who can? Presidents Yeltsin and Chirac, Prime Minister Major or UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali? Perhaps it is worth pondering the fact that the Russians were never even mentioned as candidates for the Washington summit, despite their official role as co-sponsors of the Madrid Conference, the historic conclave abandoned by this fractious region's contentious leaders. The writer is with the Chicago-Sun Times.

Wizard in a new world

URI AVNERI

STREET magicians dazzle passersby with their sleight-of-hand, while political wizards use words to distract people from their actions. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is a grade-A political wizard. As his hand was shaking Arafat's, his mouth was spouting myriad objections to a Palestinian state. Clearly Netanyahu's words were intended to calm those who claimed, justly enough, that he has embarked on a path that will inevitably lead to a Palestinian state. Nevertheless it is worthwhile examining these words. After all, many Likud members are in profound emotional distress, and it is important to provide them with food for thought as they crystallize new perspectives. "What kind of state do you think you're offering the Palestinians?" Netanyahu mockingly asks the peace camp. A state without an army? Without the right to sign treaties with other states? Without the right to absorb refugees? The conclusion: It won't be a sovereign state, and therefore it has no substance. Let's examine these points one by one. • A state without an army. There's nothing new in stopping a country having armed forces. After World War II Germany and Japan were prohibited from forming an army. This resulted in a tremendous economic flowering for both countries because neither needed to spend money on arms. Ironically, it was the US itself that prodded them, several years later, to form armies, to the displeasure of many Germans and Japanese. But the Palestinian state-in-the-making already has an army, some 40,000-strong, otherwise known as a police force. And once there's a Palestine state there won't be any reason for stopping it having armed forces. On the contrary, once peace comes Israel will have a vested interest in a reasonably-

sized Palestinian army to ensure stability and security. Sure, it will be desirable to establish limits on size, arms, etc. So what? • Treaties. No problem, as long as they're mutual. In any peace agreement between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine, each side should agree to refrain from concluding treaties aimed against the other. For instance, Palestine would not be able to sign a treaty with Iraq, or Israel with Iran, even if Iran reverted to the Shah's regime. • Pumping water. A joint administration would allocate existing water resources and create new ones. Toward this end, Israel needs to rid itself of its military-rule mentality to allow for a flourishing partnership based on equality, rather than on Israeli dictate. Together, we could work a miracle and establish an enormous reservoir of desalinated water. I have even seen plans for it. Bibi's having a hard time imagining the notion? So what? • Return of refugees. This sounds terrible because so many people here still think in terms of the British Mandate. Then immigration and emigration were critically important. Now we have a different world in which two sovereign states can live side by side, linked by a treaty. When a permanent border runs between the two states and each has its own defined area of sovereignty it won't matter to the Arabs how many Jews immigrate to Israel, and it won't matter to the Jews how many Arabs immigrate

Reality will cause even Netanyahu to lurch forward on the road to peace

to Palestine. Each government will have to decide for itself how many people it can absorb and support. And if the Palestinians really wish to absorb a million refugees from camps in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan into their state, at the expense of their standard of living, so what? Netanyahu has pointed out that there are autonomous nationalistic entities in many countries, all striving for independence, saying that if these were all accepted there would be 180 more countries in the world. So what? (A cynic might say: Great - 180 new positions for Likud ambassadors.) But comparing these to the Palestinians is false. It's based on the fallacy that the Palestinians have "autonomy." The Oslo accords do not mention autonomy but self-government, which is worlds away. The Basques, who are Spanish citizens in every way and who vote for the Spanish parliament have "autonomy." In addition to their rights as Spanish citizens, they have special privileges of self-administration in several areas, such as culture, education, and money. Palestinians don't have "autonomy," and the daily use of the term is a lie. They have "self government" - in other words, a state-in-the-making. Making what? We know the answer from our own experience of nationhood: a full-fledged state. A cynic might say Netanyahu's words were intended to pave the way to accepting such a point of view, that what he was in effect saying was: With such a state, one could coexist. The devil isn't so terrible. The events of the last few days might seem to prove the opposite. But reality will push even Netanyahu forward on the road to peace, from crisis to crisis, one hesitant step after another. The writer heads the Peace Bloc.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LOW-INTENSITY CONFLICTS

Sir, - Your editorial of September 12 carried a commentary concerning public attitudes toward army service, especially reserve duty. The writer noted that some attribute the increasingly negative public attitudes to the "fact" that, an "existential" threat has not confronted Israel since the Yom Kippur War. That "fact" is too important and too flawed to go unquestioned. The threat of a major conventional war has receded, at least for now. Unfortunately, a new threat - low-intensity warfare - has emerged. South Lebanon is the current playground and while they may take longer, low-intensity conflicts can be and have been as deadly as the higher-intensity varieties. In short, given Israel's size and location, any credible military threat, including those presented by practitioners of low-intensity conflicts, can become "existential." Defense intellectuals in Israel have recognized the threat shift and questioned the nation's current defense structure. In general, they argue for a defense establishment on the American or British model. They may be right. At minimum, they and their ideas should be heard. Domestic politics drove America's adoption of the active duty and reserve All Volunteer Force. Initially resisted by the military, it proved to have been the right move for the wrong reasons. Israel, facing a less complicated but potentially more deadly situation than that confronting the world's only (for now) superpower, presently has ample reason to re-examine its defense structure. The outcome, whatever it is, could well be case of doing the right things for the right reasons. Too many unfriendly parties watch with too much interest to do less. J. D. LYNCH, Jr. Major General, US Marine Corps University Park, Florida.

SYRIAN INTENTIONS

Sir, - Peaceniks can't yet face the fact that Oslo's delusions and lies are bringing war. Mark A. Heller's "Risk of a war no one wants" (September 20) is a case in point and academic theory as its worst. He shows astonishing incomprehension of Assad's and general Middle East thinking. Heller's suppositions (a) that "reassurance" could have resolved tensions of 1914 without World War I, (b) that Chamberlain's folly aimed to avoid such "mistakes" in 1938 and (c) that Syria's present sabre-rattling can be pacified by such mythical "reassurance" today, are dangerous nonsense in Israel's present dire peril. Even more dangerous is his assertion that Assad and Syria are "entirely different" from Hitler and the Nazis. Any differences are less than the violent likenesses. Assad, whose aim is to destroy Israel, not to recover the Golan, as Heller assumes, is point man for an Islamist hatred of Jews as demonic and visceral as Hitler's. Contrary to his claim that "the relative resources are entirely different," Assad's gas weapon, forged by Alois Brunner's Nazi industrialists to finish the Jews, with Islam's armies behind him, gives him resources fully comparable to Hitler's in 1939. Contrary to his wishful thinking that there is "little

POST OFFICE SERVICE

Sir, - Here is an example of the wonderful new "service" from the post office: even though my office is a 20-second walk from the Mea She'arim post office, I am told that because of the better service at the new Genia branch, I must walk 10-15 minutes for six to seven blocks and then stand in line for 15-20 minutes to pick up an oversized letter or package. I think I would rather have the old ordinary bad service from the post office than subject myself to this time-consuming waste. PESACH OSTROY, M.D. Jerusalem.

DRY BONES

Sir, - Thank you very much for bringing back Ya'akov Kirschen and his/or Dry Bones. A wonderful start to the new year! I am going to wait impatiently for Fridays and Mondays and his spoonful of honey. EVA TOREN Tel Aviv.

BETRAYAL

Sir, - Every day we hear statements from Arab countries, Western nations and our own leftists pressuring Israel to live up to the Oslo agreement, namely to turn Hebron over to the Palestinian Authority. What is not even mentioned is the fact that Arafat has not fulfilled over a dozen agreements he made with Israel. What is even more disappointing is that while Netanyahu, prior to his election, made Israel's fulfillment of the Oslo agreement contingent on Arafat's fulfillment of his Oslo obligations, one hardly hears this anymore from the Likud leader. After the 1992 elections, it was the Likud which accused the Rabin government of not living up to its pre-election promises and now we are witnessing a similar pattern from Netanyahu and his government. The above is but one out of many examples we could cite of how Netanyahu has betrayed thousands of people who voted for him. JOSHUA J. ADLER Jerusalem.

AL JOLSON SOCIETY

Sir, - I recently discovered the existence of the International Al Jolson Society and was wondering whether there are any "Jolie" fans living in Israel. I have copies of a few of his records and would like to expand my collection. Anyone interested should contact me at Tel. 09-433189, fax 09-912225 or c/o P.O. Box 164, Kfar Sava. TZEMACH BLOMBERG Kfar Sava.

Handwritten notes and signatures in the right margin, including "GWI", "Rami", "Livel", and "The writer is with the Chicago-Sun Times."

Handwritten note at the bottom: "כלוא מן האלופה"

JAY BUSHINSKY

SUMMITRY may be a diplomatic art form in today's world. Originally it was based on the pursuit of the world's great powers to a common goal, and a common desire to work a problem that could arise after a summit.

And considering the large reputations of the men who invented and attended to the summit conference held in Casablanca, Casablanca, Yalta and Potsdam, these moments of peace did seem to be snipping the fabric of the world.

But the principals attending the summit were not the same as those who attended the summit in Casablanca, Yalta and Potsdam.

Clinton took a different approach. He was not the president of the United States, but the president of the world.

They're calling the Washington summit - but its participants have diverse agendas.

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Clinton took a different approach. He was not the president of the United States, but the president of the world.

Gwyneth Jones fulfills her dream

IT was late at night during a cool London fall a few decades ago. On the tiny curb door of the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, a large crowd gathered with anticipation.

They had just spent more than five hours enjoying a production of Wagner's *Siegfried*. They waited patiently for an extra half hour or so for the arrival of their star.

Walking slowly, radiant with a huge smile, Gwyneth Jones acknowledged her fans with smiles and awarded autographed postcards to each admirer.

Yes, she was only on stage about 20 minutes that evening, but in those final 20 minutes of the opera she managed to captivate one and all as Wagner's Brunnhilde, one of the most intriguing characters of the opera world, which in this specific opera is as radiant and glorious as the woman who sang her.

And now the soprano, who is approaching her 60th birthday, will be able to fulfill a long-time dream and visit Jerusalem.

Tonight she opens the Leonard Bernstein Jerusalem International Oratorio and Song Competition in a gala concert.

"Ever since I was a child I always wanted to visit the Holy Land, but I was never invited," Jones said in a phone interview from her Zurich home.

As she is associated with the music of Wagner, it is in a way natural that the opportunity did not arise. "I realize there is a problem with Wagner in Israel,

but it's a great shame because it's just great music."

Jones' operatic career is still very hectic these days, but she also finds time to sing concerts and recitals. "These are two very different things. In lieder recitals you are much closer to the audience, it's just you and the public and the beauty of the words. Opera, on the other hand is a tremendous emotional experience."

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MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

On the opera stage Jones usually portrays heroines much younger than her own age. "You are as old as you feel, and I feel very fit to sing all these roles. As long as my voice is healthy, I will sing. But once I discover vocal problems I will immediately quit."

And the way to avoid these

vocal problems, as much as one can, is "to live very sensibly. I watch what I eat and I go to the sauna regularly. And really on stage I always feel exactly like the character I'm playing."

In this age, in which opera has become a very theatrical experience, Jones agrees that singers "should try and have a figure. It's very important to look right for the role you do on stage. You should take care of yourself. I still

do the dance of the seven veils when I perform *Salome*, replete with a belly-dancing part in which my head touches the floor backwards.

But I know there are several young sopranos who are very overweight and it's problematic. I won't mention names, but they really should watch themselves."

In Jerusalem, Jones will sing four songs by Mahler and Alban Berg's Seven Early Songs.

"I love them, they are very beautiful. People think that Berg is very modern, but these songs are so romantic, so beautiful and so lush. It's not 12-tone music."

A few years ago, Jones received the title dame from Queen Elizabeth II. "It's a wonderful honor and very special, it's the highest honor you can have. I have received high honors from the governments of Austria, Germany and France, but this is very special because you are recognized in your own land. And because there are fewer women than men who receive this honor, I was and still am extremely proud of it."

When she leaves Israel, Jones will travel directly to her homeland of Wales for a special project she is organizing.

"There is this beautiful castle in Craig-y-nos, which has a small opera house in it, and we are renovating it. I want to form an opera studio there, and if all the plans go in the right way we will open it in 1999. I will give a few masterclasses there every year whenever I will have time and we will also concentrate on performances for



Dame Gwyneth Jones: 'Ever since I was a child I always wanted to visit the Holy Land.'

young children." Jones is more than touched and honored to appear in an event associated with the late Leonard Bernstein.

"I loved him dearly and we were very close. We did many things together, both Mahler and Beethoven symphonies and operas. "Lenny was a very special person... his joy of making music was so immense and so infectious, it was real. Coming to Jerusalem for Lenny is a great privilege and honor."

Tough competition for Leonard Bernstein awards

HELEN KAYE

EIGHTEEN singers from 14 countries will compete in the final rounds of the second Leonard Bernstein International Music Competition in Jerusalem which starts today and ends next Tuesday.

The jury panel is from these bodies which include The Leonard Bernstein Estate, The Israel Philharmonic, the JSO, the Vienna Philharmonic, the Tanglewood and Pacific Music Festivals and the New York Philharmonic.

There will also be a Public Prize awarded to a singer chosen by the audience.

The competition will open with a gala concert at the Jerusalem theater with Japanese conductor Yutaka Sado, last year's winner, conducting the JSO, and close with the winner's gala on October 7.

The competition is triennial in each category and next year's is for composers. Competitors are being asked for an orchestral or chamber work taken from the Bible, other sacred writings or secular poetry which has Jerusalem as its central theme.

Each winner - and there is no limit to the number of winners, nor will they be ranked - will receive \$25,000, a medallion and career assistance from the musical institutions sponsoring the contest.

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Rami Kleinstein: Rocker with American roots

The Collection RAMI KLEINSTEIN (Helicon)

IN TUNE DAVID BRINN

DESPITE having released some of the finest Israeli pop of the last 10 years, Rami Kleinstein has always been handicapped by being labeled "Rita's husband."

All that should change now with the release of *The Collection*, an overview of Kleinstein's recording career which reconfirms that he is a major talent.

English speakers who perhaps have a mental block against hearing rock in Hebrew will find Kleinstein's music completely accessible and melodically reminiscent of American pianists like Billy Joel and Bruce Hornsby. For straight from his first record, Kleinstein has always been the most American-styled of all Israeli rockers.

With production values that ran against Israeli trends by relying as much on the music and arrangements as on the vocals, Kleinstein molded his American upbringing (as a son of Israelis in the US) with his native culture to forge a completely original style. This rings loudly throughout this 18-song collection.

Leaning perhaps a little too heavily on the "ballad" side, taken together the tracks will, even to a casual rock listener, sound like a greatest-hits-of-Israeli-rock over the last 10 years.

On the soft side you have the exquisite "Let Me Be" and "Apples and Dates," and on the more vibrant side are "Cold Out There," "Fire" and "Radio, Radio." In-between are more clas-

sic pop songs that in conjunction with his exuberant live performances have developed legions of loyal fans.

Kleinstein would have succeeded in any language.

The very best of The Who THE WHO (Helicon)

The appearance of yet another "greatest hits" compilation of The Who seems redundant, since there are a dozen or so out there.

However it's always good to hear the greatest rock band in the world perform their craft. And that's what they were, despite the accolades given to the Stones and the Beatles.

Surprisingly, given the public fascination with the '60s and '70s and the multitude of documentaries on the subject from *The Beatles Anthology* to American Public TV's *History of Rock and Roll*, The Who have unjustly been overlooked and there has been a marked lack of recognition for their unique contributions.

It was The Who who were perfectors of the fine art of the concept album, and who were among the first to break out of the traditional British R&B standard instrument mold. They possessed perhaps the best drummer and bass player in rock history in Keith Moon and John Entwistle, and Pete Townshend's guitar pyrotechnics were not far behind.

And most of all, it was Townshend and friends who

embodied the pinnacle of expression for teenage rage and frustration whether it be in the '60s or the '90s.

Punk bands in the '70s didn't look to The Beatles as their prototype, they looked to The Who. From "My Generation" to "5.15" The Who were telling it like it was on every subject from unrequited love to masturbation.

Unlike The Beatles who broke up at the height of their popularity, or The Rolling Stones, who continue to embrace themselves to this day, The Who tried to have it both ways, lingering on through the '80s until they withered away. They could never reconcile "Hope I die before I get old" from "My Generation" with "Long live Rock."

While the new release is basically a haphazard compilation of *Meaty, Beaty, Big and Bouncy* (from 1971) with a few later '70s tracks thrown in, it's a vital reminder of who's the best.

Fade Out (The Soft Ones) VARIOUS ARTISTS (Helicon)

Helicon is calling this generous compilation a "quiet alternative collection." And while it does present the quieter side of such bands as Bush, Radiohead and The Cult, you couldn't describe anything here as a love ballad.

The guitars are still distorted, the vocals sometimes jolting and the general atmosphere pessimistic. There are a couple of standout tracks - "Travelling Light" by Timberbox, and a scary remake of the old '70s hit "The Dark End of The Street" by The Afghan Whigs. But like with much of alterna-



Pianist Kleinstein is reminiscent of Billy Joel and Bruce Hornsby. (Yoram Bozanglo)

live rock, too many of the artists don't know how to make quiet, introspective songs without sounding dreary and depressing. Recommended, but not if you're having a bad day.

Miracle BIM SHERMAN (NMC)

This is a tantalizing low-key debut by this British balladeer with a silver-throated voice. Accompanied only by acoustic guitar, various polyrhythmic percussion, chimes, bird noises and subtle orchestrations, Sherman sings passionately about love and life.

There's a lack of imagination in the arrangements which tend to follow a similar pattern of nature noises melding into guitar/percussion, and the tempo rarely varies, but Sherman does what he does very well.

If Cat Stevens had come around in a post-new age world, he would have sounded a lot like this.

Special thanks to Seth J. Vogelman who knows best.

A South African Cain & Abel, in Arabic

Blood Knot by Athol Fugard. Translation into Arabic, Riad Balaid. Direction, Mazen Gattas. Set, Nabli Doukha. Lighting, Vahid Ogeil. Arab Theater in Israel, Wadi Salib. Arabic title, Rasbat Dam.

THEATER REVIEW NAOMI DOUDAI

BLOOD Knot, the second production of this new government-sponsored Arab theater, is a highly professional and promising achievement coming from so recently established a company.

For me the sophisticated reception on the part of the audience, made up mainly of the Israeli Arab intelligentsia, was no less of an eye-opener than the quality of the newly formed company.

The company is headed by artistic director Abu Yussuf Vardi and veteran actor Makram Khouri, both well-known figures in the Haifa Municipal Theater, which encourages the venture with the loan of technicians and the use of a theater.

A two-man show featuring a Cain-Abel configuration of two brothers, members of a Port Elizabeth Cape-Colored family, *Blood Knot* is powerfully played in Arabic by two accomplished actors widely known to audiences here for their work in Hebrew.

Gassan Abbas as Zechariah, a

black, irascible illiterate, provides a sharp contrast to the sophisticated, smooth-spoken, white Maurice of Makram Khouri.

The play, an apartheid production, pits the problems and pain of the victims of racial prejudice in a specific sector of South African society.

The prejudice that exists here, as well as among Arabs, is reflected in this play," says director Mazen Gattas.

To an objective witness the parallel may appear tenuous. As portrayed in the play, racial prejudice in the very specific climate of colored South Africans bears only a remote resemblance to Arab-Jewish antagonisms in Israel.

In addition, the bloody aftermath of apartheid now erupting in interracial mayhem in South Africa is a grimly pessimistic message to offer in the middle of our still ongoing peace process.

Plans underway to mount plays in Arabic by local playwrights may, however, produce a more authentic expression of the gut experience of our Arab population.

They will, at the same time, realize the natural craving of many Hebrew-speaking Israeli Arab actors to express their art in their native tongue for the benefit of fellow Arabs.

Returning to the theatrics of this nonetheless interesting production, direction deserves credit for activating a static scenario with the lively use of a simple but adaptable set.

Symbols of poverty used with some ingenuity - a corrugated iron sheet roped against the elements, empty oil drums substituted for furniture, a background of crude scaffolding that can be climbed - encourage movement by the two otherwise interminably talking personae. A satisfactory pattern of "stage business" ensues.

All this gives rise to what may be a premature but ultimately profitable suggestion. Why not make these productions available to the general Israeli public in Hebrew too?

Surely this would be a simpler act for bilingual Hebrew-Arabic speaking actors than it was for Geshen's Russians, who have bridged the language gap with great gusto.

Lively Bizet, dramatic Tchaikovsky

THERE seem still to exist works, even by Bizet, which have not yet been performed by the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, and can therefore qualify for a First ISO Performance.

His Rome Symphony, being performed in the ISO's Open Studio Series Concert No. 2, is no doubt a work worth being introduced to the local audience.

It is an agitated, lively piece abounding in glittering instrumental colors, sometimes in the winds and sometimes in the strings, and occasional tuneful episodes, leading up to a sprightly, witty unmistakably Italianate vivacissimo.

Conductor Sergei Hanukayev,

besides displaying an authoritative command of the orchestral forces, answered the formidable challenges posed by the winds and, moreover, created a vivacious, fresh atmosphere in Bizet's work; and an appropriately somber one in Mordechai Seter's *Meditation*.

Svetlana Sandler has a delightful dark-timbered mezzo-soprano, well suited for the dramatic expression of Tchaikovsky's *Pique Dame* aria in which she obviously felt at home.

In Verdi's *Ballo in Maschera*, on the other hand, she sounded

more cautious, striving for a tonal balance with the often too domineering and not quite supportive orchestra.

Jerusalem Theater, September 26.

BACH'S *Goldberg Variations*, performed by harpsichordist Zvi Meniker, was the opening concert of the Jerusalem Early Morning Workshop.

This monumental testimony of musical inventiveness is certainly one of the most imposing works one could have selected for starting such a celebrated

event on its way. Meniker played the uncommonly demanding work with impeccable clarity, polished skill that never deteriorated into mere showmanship, a finely developed sense of shaping a phrase, and subtle, not overdone, accentuations of melodic keynotes.

He also circumspectly administered just the right dosage of *jeu d'egal* to prevent the playing from sounding mechanical.

Scrupulously attentive to detail without ever losing sight of the structure's grandeur, Meniker's rendition was a remarkable and inspiring artistic achievement.

Jerusalem Music Center, Mishkenot Sha'ananim, September 28.

Early music for students

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

FIFTEEN young musicians from England, Germany, Hungary and the Netherlands have just arrived to participate in the Jerusalem Early Music Workshop. It is the first time in the workshop's 14 years that foreign students have taken part.

This one-week event enables almost 150 early-music enthusiasts to study with the best teachers in the field. According to workshop director Hed Sella, "The early-music phenomenon began as something esoteric and rather minor, but today it has reached a highly professional standard...

there are many virtuosos performing early music today. "When we began it seemed like a workshop for kids who had just started high school. Now most of the students come from the music academies or are soldiers who enjoy an Excellent Musician status." Each evening, after the daily classes are over, teachers and students gather for informal concerts which are not open to the general public. Some of the teachers will be performing in the official closing concert, on October 8 at the Tel Aviv Museum, which of course is open to the public.

TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

THIS LAST WEEKS ON WEEK CHARTS		ARTIST	TITLE
#1	5	RAMI KLEINSTEIN	COLLECTION
#2	26	SHLOMO ARTZI	SHINAM
#3	12	VIA	HITMAN 7
#4	3	WA-ROZENBELLUM	HOSENAH HACHARON
#5	27	RITA	COLLECTION
#6	3	FRIENDS OF NATASHA	LIVE
#7	28	ALANIS MORISSETTE	JAGGED LITTLE PILL
#8	16	FUGEES	THE SCORE
#9	7	VIA	NOW 34
#10	17	AVIV GEFEN	THE LETTER
#11	6	YEHUDA POLIKER	HAYELED SHEBECHA
#12	25	GEORGE MICHAEL	OLDER
#13	18	RITA	BIG LOVE
#14	RE	ARIKADI DUCHIN	ARIKADI DUCHIN
#15	18	RIKI GAL	OHEVET OTCHA YOTER

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Shekel loses 0.9 percent to robust dollar

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

THE shekel weakened sharply against the dollar and basket of currencies in mixed, volatile trading yesterday following political unrest and the rise of the dollar against the mark, dealers said.

The representative rate for the dollar was 3,220, a 0.88 percent loss for the shekel against 3,192 on Friday. The basket of currencies closed at 3,598 shekels against 3,567 on Friday.

The shekel's behavior, while clearly stemming from the recent unrest, also reflected prevalent trends in forex markets worldwide, where the greenback has crossed the 111 yen mark, thus marking a two-and-a-half year high against the Japanese currency.

The dollar's resurgence abroad was accelerated by the G7 industrialized powers' declared commitment for a strong dollar, which in turn reflects a recognition that the American currency is currently the healthiest among the world's leading economies.

and can therefore better sustain the kind of anti-growth pressures ordinarily generated by excessively strong currencies.

In Tel Aviv, however, the dollar's resurgence was clearly related to a political atmosphere of uncertainty, particularly having come after a long period in which the shekel was exceptionally solid.

"Trading was very volatile today and activity was very high," said a dealer at Bank Hapoalim. "The dollar rose to 3,247 shekels because of the political tension and the rise of the dollar abroad. By midday the dollar started back falling for no evident reason. Investors are very confused. People were buying dollars because of the clashes, but others started selling once the dollar rose," he said.

On the crosses the shekel traded against the yen at 2,895 shekels per 100 yen, against 2,884 on Friday and against the mark at 2,1093 shekels per mark against 2,0963 on Friday.

Katsav delays \$6 million tourism PR campaign 'Unrest handing severe blow to tourism'

HAIM SHAPIRO

NO new tourism reservations have been recorded since the eruption of violence between Israelis and Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza last week, leaders in the tourism industry told Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav at an emergency meeting held in Jerusalem yesterday.

During the meeting, heads of the Hotel Association, the Tour Operators Association, the Association of Travel Agents and the Tour Guides Association discussed the slump Israel's tourism industry is facing following recent events.

Katsav said he would cancel a \$6 million public relations campaign which had only just begun in Europe and North America.

Industry leaders agreed that at this time, when the news reports are

filled with stories of violence and tension, such a campaign would be at best a waste of money and could even be counterproductive. The industry leaders also said that tourism operators abroad have stopped securing large blocks of airline seats for groups, indicating that tourism in the long run may be affected.

In anticipation of cancellations and in an effort to maintain goodwill with their foreign counterparts, the tour operators said they would waive cancellation fees.

In order to deal with the situation, the Tourism Ministry has opened a situation room, which provides overseas tourism offices with an analysis of the local situation.

Despite the local slump, Katsav will later this month appear with his Jordanian counterpart at the American Society of Travel Agents in Bangkok.

Commenting on the situation, Rafi Baeri, sales and marketing manager of the Radisson Moriah chain, offered an optimistic note. He said that if there is no further violence, the industry could pull through the winter without suffering too much damage.

Industry sources added that cancellations were more common among Jewish tourists than among non-Jewish ones.

Previous periods of intensely televised unrest in and around Israel, most notably the Lebanon War and the Intifada, resulted in prolonged slumps in tourism to Israel.

Turner: Talking to Murdoch is like talking to Hitler

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Rupert Murdoch and Ted Turner, two of the world's most powerful media barons, are at war with each, with Turner comparing Murdoch to Adolf

Hitler and Murdoch vowing to get even.

While the two and their surrogates trade verbal blows, their respective corporations are conducting a behind-the-scenes battle that could wind up in court.

At issue is whether Time Warner, the US's second largest cable operator, will carry Murdoch's soon to be launched competitor to CNN, which is becoming part of the Time Warner empire.

Time Warner says no, and in a brief encounter with reporters last Thursday, Turner accused Murdoch of using his newspapers as weapons in a media war, saying: "Talking to Murdoch is like confronting the late Führer." He also called the reporters who work for Murdoch, "yellow journalists."

Murdoch later told *The Wall Street Journal*, "Ted Turner will say much worse before it's through. I believe what [Joseph] Kennedy said: 'Don't get mad, get even.'"

But on Friday, a top executive at Murdoch's News Corporation, decided to get mad at Turner's comments.

"This kind of vengeful rhetoric has no place in a civilized society. Mr. Turner's statement, which is one more expression of his personal animosity toward Mr. Murdoch, must be viewed as deeply offensive not only to Mr. Murdoch and his associates ... but to all people of good will," said Arthur Siskind, a News Corp. vice president and its general counsel.

He added, "Mr. Turner should not be allowed to utilize the monopolistic power of Time Warner to deprive programmers access to its cable systems to further his own personal vendetta."

Nor was Siskind the only angry

man around. The head of the Anti-Defamation League said he found Turner's remarks "quite disturbing."

In a letter to Turner, ADL national director Abraham Foxman said: "As many and as serious as your business or personal differences with Mr. Murdoch are, comparing him to Hitler trivializes a profound historical tragedy. The comparison is an insult to the memory of the millions of victims of Nazism."

Murdoch plans to launch his 24-hour-a-day cable news channel on October 7 and has billed it as a conservative alternative to what he perceives as Turner's liberal CNN, a cable operation he has often publicly stated he would love to buy and make the centerpiece of a media empire that spans the globe.

News Corp. executives are still smarting at Time Warner's decision to carry MSNBC's all news channel on about half its cable systems instead of Murdoch's Fox News Channel.

When the Federal Trade Commission gave its agreement for Time Warner to absorb the Turner Broadcasting System at a cost of \$6.7 billion, it said Time Warner had to offer its subscribers a second all-news channel.

News Corp. thought it had a deal to be that second channel and was shocked to find out that it was not. But a Time Warner spokesman insisted no agreement was reached with Murdoch. Instead, one was reached with MSNBC, the news channel being offered by Microsoft and NBC.

A News Corp. spokeswoman said the company was pursuing all its options.

One strong possibility is going to court, but company sources said that no decision had yet been made.

Africa Israel tender to proceed as scheduled

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

BANK Leumi intends to go ahead with plans to publish a tender by Thursday to sell its surplus shares in Africa Israel, despite the uncertain political situation, a Bank Leumi spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said the bank does not think the security situation will hinder potential investors from participating in the tender.

To enable Bank Leumi to comply with the requirements of the newly redefined Banking (Licensing) Law, Leumi must reduce its holdings in Africa Israel (excluding the Migdal insurance company) from 65 percent to 25% by the end of this year.

It is not yet clear if Bank Leumi will also sell shares in Africa Israel to businessmen Eitan Wertheimer and Moti Zisser.

The two businessmen together hold 14% of the company's controlling shares and stock capital, as well as an option to demand that Bank Leumi sell its shares in one package together with the bank's shares.

According to Zissar-Wertheimer's agreement with Bank Leumi, the businessmen have to inform the bank of their intentions at least two days before the tender's publication.

Neither Zissar nor Wertheimer could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Assuming Zissar's and Wertheimer's shares are sold in one package, Bank Leumi will offer a tender for the sale of 54% of Africa Israel's issued share capital.

German car workers lead sick pay protests

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - Germany's IG Metall union yesterday took up the gamut thrown down by large employers such as Daimler-Benz by

"A fax for you"
All you want to know about your accounts, on your fax, within 15 minutes.

15 minutes and you're gone...

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Gates tops richest list for third time: Microsoft Corp. cofounder Bill Gates is the richest person in America for the third year in a row, according to *Forbes* magazine. In its issue reporting on the 400 wealthiest Americans, *Forbes* said the net worth of the 40-year-old billionaire has jumped to a staggering \$18.5 billion, up almost \$4b. in just the last year.

The stock market's bull run had much to do with the big gain in the fortunes of those who made the *Forbes* list.

A prime example is Warren Buffett, 66, the famed Nebraska investor who came in second with a net worth of \$15b. Third place was taken by another Microsoft billionaire, Paul Allen, 43, who helped Gates start the company 11 years ago and is worth \$7.5b., according to *Forbes*.

To gain admission to this exclusive club, one needed US citizenship and a net worth of at least \$415 million this year, up \$75m. from 1995. And thanks in part to the strong stock market, the average net worth of those on the list exceeded \$1b. for the first time.

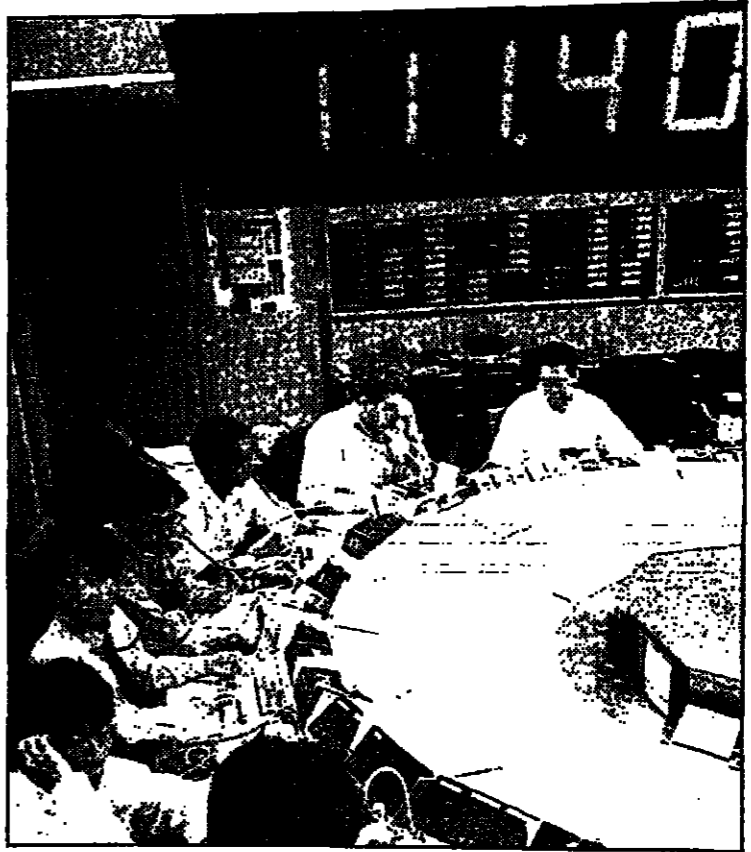
The magazine found that 30 of its 400 richest Americans never attended college. And the 63 people on the list who did not have a college degree had a much higher average net worth than the college graduates on the list. *Reuters*

One of Russia's biggest retailers, OAO Torgovy Dom TSUM, will launch a 30 million share issue today at 2,000 rubles (\$37) to finance a big modernization program, the lead manager of the issue said yesterday.

The shares will be on offer until December 31, Oleg Yachnik, president of lead manager OLMA said at a news conference.

TSUM, located in the center of Moscow, is one of the first major Russian companies to make a share issue to raise funds.

The \$22 million reconstruction project, which aims to put a gloss on the store for the city of Moscow's 850th anniversary next September, will increase floor space by 60 percent from the current 9,300 square meters, TSUM general manager Alexander Voskobochnikov said. *Reuters*



A signboard flashes the US dollar rate in afternoon trading at a Tokyo brokerage yesterday. The dollar hit its highest trading since January 25, 1994, following a harmonious meeting of the G7 nations and an expectation that US interest rates have nowhere to go but up. *(Reuters)*

Bank Discount to focus on large-scale clientele

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

BANK Discount has made structural and operational changes in its credit division in an attempt to focus its energies on large companies.

The bank said it is close to completing the changes needed to serve companies with turnovers of more than \$25 million and firms with credit lines of more than \$5m.

The changes involve separation of the credit divisions activities according to field of specialization - such as electronics, computers and high tech.

Each field will be managed by a business manager and a special customer banker, who will have full responsibility for a fixed list of clients.

In addition, the bank has set up sub-field teams, headed by business managers specializing in foreign

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS				
Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.250	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.975	5.000	5.125	
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.825	1.825	1.825	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.825	0.750	1.000	
Yen (10 million yen)				

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (30.9.96)				
Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES	
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	3.1883	3.2377	3.19	3.23
German mark	2.0872	2.1209	2.08	2.11
Pound sterling	0.6175	0.6099	0.61	0.61
French franc	2.8596	0.6287	0.60	0.64
Japanese yen (100)	1.8609	1.8910	2.61	2.95
Dutch guilder	2.5373	2.5783	1.82	1.82
Swiss franc	0.4889	0.4883	0.47	0.47
Norwegian krone	0.5434	0.4977	0.48	0.50
Danish krone	0.8972	0.8522	0.83	0.88
Finland mark	2.3390	0.7088	0.68	0.72
Canadian dollar	0.7049	2.5648	2.48	2.41
Australian dollar	1.0139	0.7163	0.63	0.61
S. African rand	2.8975	3.0154	0.98	1.05
Belgian franc (10)	4.4300	2.1215	2.81	3.06
Austrian schilling (10)	2.0878	4.7300	2.18	2.08
Italian lira (1000)	0.8100	4.0451	0.91	0.98
Jordanian dinar	3.9808	0.9800	0.91	0.91
Egyptian pound	5.0897	5.1820	5.01	5.28
Irish punt	2.4810	2.5211	2.43	2.58
Spanish peseta (100)				

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

BANK LEUMI LE-ISRAEL B.M.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Banking (Licensing) Law, 5741-1981, according to which Bank Leumi le-Israel B.M. ("Bank Leumi") is required to reduce its surplus holdings in Africa Israel Investments Ltd. (the "Company"), a public company whose shares are traded on The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, Bank Leumi intends to offer for sale in a single transaction off The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange its surplus holdings in the Company after the Spin-off of Leumi Insurance Holdings Ltd. ("Leumi Insurance") as explained below, together with the holdings of Messrs. Mordechai Zisser and Eitan Wertheimer (through trust companies) in the Company, i.e. a block of shares of the Company (the "Block of Shares"), representing some 46.58% of the issued share capital of the Company and some 54.2% of the voting rights in the Company.

Furthermore, offerors will be requested to provide Bank Leumi with a put option for additional shares in the Company held by Bank Leumi, so that Bank Leumi will not hold more than 20% after 31 December 1999.

Anyone interested in making an offer to purchase the Block of Shares in their entirety should give notice as provided in the Transaction Documents (defined below) by 21 October 1996 at 13:00 Israel time.

On 19 September 1996 at an Extraordinary General Meeting, the Company adopted a resolution to distribute the shares in Leumi Insurance held by the Company as a dividend in kind to shareholders in the Company (the "Spin-off"). The sale of the Block of Shares is conditional upon the carrying out of the Spin-off. The amount offered for the Block of Shares should consequently reflect the value of the Company without Leumi Insurance, inasmuch as the sale will only be carried out after completion of the Spin-off as aforesaid.

Additional information concerning, inter alia, the Block of Shares, the terms of the offer and the sale process, including the matter of granting to Bank Leumi the right to sell the remainder of its holdings in the Company, is provided in the Procedure Letter and agreement(s) for the sale of the Block of Shares (the "Transaction Documents"), which can be obtained from:

Kantor, Elhanani, Tal & Co., Law Offices, 76 Rothschild Blvd., Tel Aviv, Israel, tel.: 972-3-5662950, fax: 972-3-5662960; and/or

Bank Leumi c/o Sean C.V. Mullin, Executive Director, Morgan Stanley & Co. Ltd., 25 Cabot Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 4QA, England, tel.: (44) (171) 4255252 or (44) (171) 4255714, fax: (44) (171) 4255300.

Morgan Stanley & Co. Ltd. are acting as advisers to Bank Leumi only, in connection with the sale of the Block of Shares.

This notice does not constitute an offer to the public to purchase the Block of Shares. Bank Leumi expressly reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, and without giving any reasons therefor, to conduct discussions with any person or any entity. Bank Leumi has no obligation to notify any applicants regarding such discussions and/or modifications to the terms or the procedure under which Bank Leumi chooses to sell the Block of Shares. In addition, Bank Leumi shall have no obligation to sell the Block of Shares in whole or in part, and the purchasers, if any, will be determined on the basis of clarifications and negotiations conducted by Bank Leumi, in its sole discretion, with the parties it chooses, in the event it decides to sell the Block of Shares.

bank leumi בנק לאומי

האזנה מן האולם

Newcastle hangs on to beat Villa

LONDON (AP) - Newcastle took a 3-1 lead and then - despite a man advantage for half the match - was forced to hold on for a 4-3 victory yesterday over Aston Villa to move into second place in the Premier League.

Newcastle, which again got into trouble with a leaky defense, gave up a hat trick to Aston Villa's Dwight Yorke that overshadowed two goals by Newcastle's hot striker Les Ferdinand.

The victory at home gives Newcastle 18 points in eight games, just behind Liverpool with 20 in the same number of matches. Arsenal is alone in third with 17 and two-time defending champion Manchester United has 16.

Yorke gave Aston Villa 1-0 lead in the fourth minute, but Ferdinand answered a minute later with a goal to tie and then made it 2-1 in the 22nd.

Alan Shearer, who moved to Newcastle this season on a record-£15-million transfer from Blackburn, made it 3-1 in the 38th. Newcastle seemed to be home free minutes later when Aston Villa's Mark Draper was sent off in the 43rd for his second reckless challenge.

Newcastle dominated play early in the second half until Yorke cut the lead to 3-2 in the 59th. Villa pressed for the next several minutes and looked set to tie despite the man disadvantage, a rally knocked down when Steve Howey put Newcastle ahead 4-2 in the 67th.

Yorke again rallied Aston Villa two minutes later with his third goal of the match against a Newcastle defense that was porous despite the extra man. Aston Villa has 12 points in eight games.

Southampton signs Norwegian striker

LONDON (Reuters) - Struggling Southampton signed Norwegian international striker Egil Olsen yesterday for £900,000 pounds.

The 24-year-old has scored four goals in four matches for his country and 23 in 24 matches for his club.

"He is a big strong lad with a great goalscoring record and could be just what we need up front," Southampton manager Graeme Souness said.

Souness is also expected to finalize a £1.2 million deal to bring Berkowitz from Maccabi Haifa once his work permit is confirmed.

Southampton, which escaped relegation on the final day of last season, is currently third from bottom in the table.

It hope to name both Ostendstad and Berkowitz on its side to face fellow strugglers Coventry in two weeks time.

Maradona threatens never to play in Argentina again

BUENOS AIRES (AP) - Hounded by reports of brain damage due to drug abuse and that he switched a urine test sample, Diego Maradona on Sunday announced he likely will never play in Argentina again.

"I regret to say this, but almost certainly I will no longer play soccer in Argentina. My mind has been made up 60 percent. I will decide on the rest in the Netherlands and Spain," Maradona said during a brief press conference.

The 1986 hero of Argentina's World Cup title had returned to his native country Saturday from Spain and Switzerland, where he underwent treatment in August for his drug dependency.

He said he intended to return to Europe Sunday night, but gave no details.

Maradona, who will be 36 on October 30, said Spanish First-Division club Rayo Vallecano is interested in him, but did not elaborate.

He is still under contract to Boca Juniors, but has not played since leaving the team in mid-August and entering drug rehabilitation.

Maradona's announcement comes amid reports that he is responsible for a supposed switching of urine samples after a game between Boca Juniors and Deportivo Espanol last month.

"I have hired a battalion of lawyers" to respond to the accusation, Maradona said.

A federal judge is investigating allegations that the test was positive and that local soccer authorities changed it to protect Maradona.

Maradona was scheduled to appear before the judge yesterday. "I had planned to remain in Europe but decided to return to Buenos Aires to see the faces of these cowards," Maradona said, referring to the accusations.

The weekly magazine *Noticias* reported Sunday that Maradona may have suffered irreversible brain damage due to his drug use, affecting his play and behavior.

Maradona, considered one of the most gifted players in the history of the game, has had countless problems off the field, including two suspensions for positive drug tests.

On March 17, 1991, while playing for Napoli of the Italian Serie A, he tested positive for cocaine after an Italian League match with Bari. The Italian league suspended him for 15 months on April 6, 1991.

After returning to Buenos Aires, Maradona was arrested by Argentine federal police 20 days later and charged with possession and distribution of drugs.

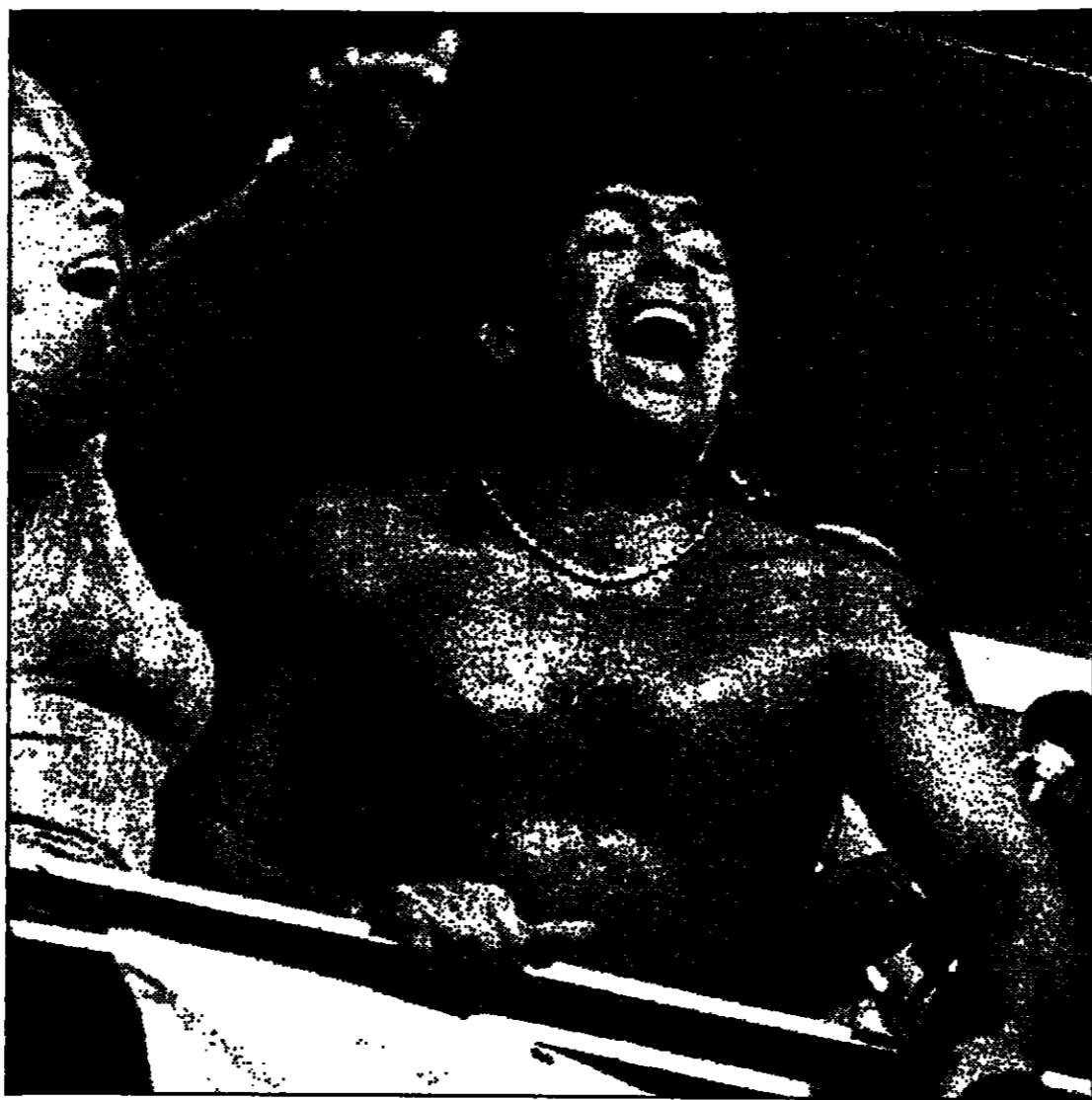
Upon completion of his suspension, he joined Spanish club Sevilla and returned to captain the Argentine national team at the 1994 World Cup.

But after Argentina's 2-1 first-round victory over Nigeria, he tested positive for what FIFA called a "cocktail" of stimulants and was banned for another 15 months.

After his suspension ended, Maradona signed on with Boca Juniors.

In late August Maradona suddenly announced he had decided to undergo treatment for his drug dependency at a Swiss clinic near Geneva.

Last year Maradona had volunteered to assist in the Argentine government's anti-narcotics campaign, claiming his own personal experience could be useful for young people tempted to use drugs.



Diego Maradona, seen here watching a soccer game, said he's through playing in his native Argentina. (Reuters)

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Red Sox, Phillies dump managers

BOSTON (AP) - Kevin Kennedy was fired yesterday after his second season as manager of the Boston Red Sox.

His dismissal came one day after the Red Sox completed a season in which they had the best record in the American League in August and September (38-18), but missed the playoffs.

Kennedy, 42, managed the Red Sox to the AL East title in 1995 after he was fired by the Texas Rangers following the 1994 season.

Despite the strong finish, the Red Sox never recovered from their 2-12 start, the worst in club history, as Kennedy juggled 55 different players on a roster constantly shuffled by general manager Dan Duquette.

Kennedy as fired with one year left on the contract he signed when he took over the team October 18, 1994. The contract also had an option for 1998 and called for the team to pick it up or decline it by September 20. That date passed with no action.

Kennedy, who led Texas to a 138-138 record in 1993-94, became Boston's 40th manager after Butch Hobson was fired.

Also yesterday, Jim Fregosi, who managed the Philadelphia Phillies to three straight losing seasons following the National League championship in 1993, was fired yesterday.

The decision was made after the Phillies finished the season Sunday with a 67-95 record, the league's worst this season.

"Jim and I have had a personal and professional association for over 30 years," general manager Lee Thomas said. "During that span we have shared many good times and many bad times. I think everyone knows where 1996 stands. For the good of the organization, a change is in order."

With the firing long rumored, speculation on Fregosi's replacement has centered on two Philadelphia coaches: Larry Bowa and John Vukovich. Thomas declined comment.

"Over the next few weeks we will begin the process to find Jim's replacement," Thomas said.

"There is no specific timetable."

Bill Giles, the Phillies president and managing general partner, prepared fans for a managerial change three weeks ago when he acknowledged he was unhappy about a rift between Fregosi and general manager Lee Thomas.

Giles told Thomas and Fregosi, friends since they were roommates with the California Angels in the 1960s, to patch up their feud or one would be dismissed.

All three men have stayed silent about possible changes since, leading to speculation that Thomas and Fregosi were unable to sort through their differences.

The main source of friction between the two seemed to be the lack of talent on a Phillies team that was decimated by injuries this season.

The Phillies lost the two biggest stars of that 1993 pennant run, center fielder Lenny Dykstra and catcher Darren Daulton, to injuries early this year and never recovered.

Philadelphia used the disabled list a club-record 23 times this season, with the 17 players who spent time on the list tying a club record.

Aside from Daulton and Dykstra, eight Phillies were lost for the season because of injuries.

Thomas was forced to fill the team's roster with other organizations' rejects, minor-leaguers and prospects. Fregosi fumed privately as the team's talent level sunk.

Philadelphia tumbled into last place in the NL East on June 18 and never got out. The Phillies were close to a 100-loss pace before going 13-13 in September.

The 54-year-old Fregosi managed the last six seasons at Philadelphia.

He guided the Phils to victory over the Atlanta Braves in the 1993 National League Championship Series and a trip to the World Series, where the Phillies fell to Toronto. Since then the Phillies labored through three consecutive losing seasons.

Fregosi replaced Nick Leyva as manager in 1991 and compiled a 431-463 record in six seasons with the team.

Tyson ordered to pay ex-trainer \$4.4m.

ALBANY (AP) - Mike Tyson was ordered by a federal jury yesterday to pay his former trainer Kevin Rooney more than \$4.4 million.

Rooney had sued Tyson for \$49 million, claiming the heavyweight champion had broken a lifetime contract.

"I am going to appeal this unjust decision," Tyson said.

Outside the federal courthouse, about two dozen demonstrators brought to Albany by New York City activist AJ Sharpton to support Tyson chanted "No Justice, No Peace!"

"An all-white jury has just robbed Mike Tyson of human status," Sharpton said of the decision by the eight jurors.

Rooney said he was satisfied with the award of \$4,415,651. "I never expected \$49 million," he said. "You can't take blood from a stone. They came in with what they feel is a just verdict and I'm not going to argue with it."

The jury broke after a day's deliberations on Thursday and resumed talking yesterday.

Shortly after noon, the jury returned to hear some of Tyson's testimony read back. In the testimony, Tyson explained he no longer wanted to work with Rooney after becoming angry at the trainer for talking publicly about Tyson's marriage to actress Robin Givens and his contract dispute with former manager Bill Cayton.

On Thursday, the jury had asked to see a tape of Rooney's 1988 television interview that had angered Tyson.

Boxing promoter Don King, who grew close to Tyson following his estrangement from Cayton, Rooney and the 1988 death of former manager Jim Jacobs, called the verdict a "terrible thing."

"I think it's a very sad day for my country," King said. "I love my country and this is just a further way of dividing it."

During the trial, Rooney could produce no written contract with Tyson to train the boxer. But he argued that the arrangement was set up by Tyson's mentor, the late Cus D'Amato, when Rooney started to work with the teenager in 1982.

D'Amato died in 1985. Cayton testified that he and Jacobs, who took over Tyson's affairs after D'Amato died, continued the arrangement.

Boxers Bobby Czyz and Tommy Morrison testified during the trial that trainers serve at the whim of boxers.

Jurors also heard videotaped testimony from Camille Ewald, D'Amato's longtime live-in friend from Catskill, New York, who is considered a surrogate mother by Tyson. Ewald, 91, is hospitalized with heart problems.

Ewald said D'Amato told her that he considered Rooney "a mistake" as trainer because of his gambling problems.

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Sampras: Stop questioning my health

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) - Pete Sampras says he's healthy, but he is getting sick of people asking about his lousy year.

Winner of seven titles this year, including the US Open, the talk has been more about the world No. 1's failures and rumors of poor health than his triumphs.

Sampras recorded his 43rd career victory at the Swiss Indoors yesterday with a straight sets win over Germany's Hendrik Dreekmann.

The winner of two Grand Slam titles a year since 1993, Sampras was limited to one this season. An early exit at the Australian Open followed by a semi-final loss to Yevgeny Kafelnikov at the French and a quarter-final defeat of eventual champion Richard Krajicek at Wimbledon prompted talk of a slump, even after his win in the US Open.

"Everybody keeps asking about my lousy year," said Sampras, shaking his head. "But I've never thought it was a bad year. It's been a good year, a great year. In some ways I've surpassed myself."

"Maybe with a bit better preparation I could've done a bit better at the French Open, and Wimbledon was a bit of a disappointment."

"But the US Open was great. If I hadn't won it maybe my year wouldn't have been great. But you can't have a year like last year, year in and year out."

While it has been business as usual for Sampras on the court, he has had problems off it. Early in the year he had to deal with the death of his friend and coach Tim Gullikson.

More recently he has had to deal with growing speculation concerning his health after he vomited on the court at the US Open during his quarter-final against Spain's Alex Corretja, sparking rumors that he was suffering from anemia.

"I am not anemic," stated Sampras, his usual patience visibly wearing thin. "This anemic thing is a bunch of nonsense. Whoever started this rumor was just speculating on why I was tired."

"I think what happened was that it was a very hot day and I ran out of fluids and minerals. That's it. Apart from that it's just been lack of conditioning."

The Swiss Indoors was Sampras's first tournament since winning the US Open and he took the two-week lay-off for a much needed rest.

The 25-year-old American is headed back to the US but will return to Europe for tournaments in Stuttgart and Paris as well as the ATP World Championships in Hanover in November.

"After the World Championships, when the season is over, I'll have time to rest and time to train," Sampras said.

"After Tim (Gullikson) passed away, I didn't do much. But now I will take my time off to train on and off court and get the base back that I'd lost. Then it'll be a new year."

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Muster to argue Brazil 'fan flap' before ITF

VIENNA (AP) - Thomas Muster, the world No. 3 tennis star who stormed off court during a Davis Cup tie with Brazil, will go to London next week to argue his case to the International Tennis Federation, a top Austrian tennis official said yesterday.

Muster left the court when he and his partner were 0-2, 15-30 down in fifth set of the doubles against Brazil last weekend in Sao Paulo.

The Austrian complained that rowdy fans had cursed, spat, threw things at him and blinded him with a mirror, and security was insufficient for him to continue playing. He said the fans behaved "like animals."

The Austrians forfeited the match, and the tie, 1-4, when they also refused to play the remaining two singles.

Muster and his coach, Ronald Leitgeb, will be among Austrians appearing before the four-person ITF committee that will discuss the case October 7, said Christian Ransmayr, vice-president of the Austrian Tennis Federation.

"We are preparing to fight," Ransmayr said.

Muster has already been fined about \$8,000 by the ITF for leaving the court and making an indecent gesture. Austria has appealed that decision.

Ransmayr said he has spent the past week collecting evidence. He contacted the Germans for details of their

Davis Cup fracas in a match in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, when Brazil was fined.

Leitgeb has been in touch with the Italians, who also had trouble when they played a Davis Cup tie in Brazil.

In addition, Ransmayr hopes to get hold of amateur video shot by an Austrian fan that may show more of the action against Muster than TV pictures of the match.

"It's not that I want something done against Brazil," Ransmayr said. "I want something done for Austria."

"The conditions there were really bad, caused in part by an overworked umpire. This was a climate in which it was impossible to play," he added.

He said he had spoken with the head referee, Antonio Marques of Portugal, during the match, saying "You should do something, Thomas is afraid."

Ransmayr said Marques told him, "I know, but what can I do?"

Brazilian tennis officials said Muster was a poor sport and dismissed his claim that he felt threatened as nonsense.

When the Austrians left the court, "we all had things thrown at us," said Ransmayr, who will be among the Austrians talking to the ITF next week.

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